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HK Govt. Servant Killed

Mr. John Ferguson McGowan, Steward (Kowloon & New Territories) of the Medical Department, was killed yesterday morning when an ambulance in which he was travelling left Castle Peak Road and dropped 30 feet.

The tragedy occurred while Mr. McGowan was on his way to pay Medical Department staff in the New Territories. He was accompanied by two constables and the driver of the ambulance.

One version of the accident, which occurred at the 11-milestone, was that the vehicle, travelling close to the edge of the road, struck a stone and swerved over the side. The driver has since been detained.

Mr. McGowan was fatally injured. Before he died on the spot, he managed to hand the money he was carrying to one of the constables. The two constables were badly shaken but not seriously hurt. The driver was also fortunate in escaping with minor injuries.

Aged 49
Born on May 3, 1899, Mr. McGowan was appointed Assistant Steward, Medical Department, on March 1, 1930. He was Acting Steward in 1933 and left on leave the following year.

In December, 1939, he was appointed Steward on returning from his second leave.

When Hong Kong fell to the Japanese in December 1941, Mr. McGowan was interned with his wife at Stanley. His wife died during the internment.

In September 1945, Mr. McGowan went on recuperation leave and returned to resume his post in April last year.

He was well-known in sporting circles, and was Secretary of the Lawn Bowls Association. Before becoming interested in lawn bowls, Mr. McGowan was a keen cricketer.

He leaves behind three step-children, two sons and a daughter. One son joined the Royal Engineers in Britain after the War broke out.

The daughter and one son were interned together with him and his wife at Stanley but were repatriated with Canadian subjects before the war ended. The daughter married in the United States.

Six More 'Kwong Tung' Victims
The Water Police recovered six more of the "Kwong Tung" panic-fire victims floating in the harbour near the Yuen On Wharf yesterday between 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.

Three were males and the others females.

This brings the total death toll of the Jan. 31 blaze, which sent 300 passengers stampeding in the river steamer, to 65 drowned or burned.

Last Sunday, police launches, under S.I. Jank, Brown and Brown, picked up the bodies of 14 women, seven men and a 3-year-old boy.

Wishful Thinking In Moscow
Moscow, Feb. 8.

Leading Soviet newspapers today reported last week's drop in prices on American commodity and stock exchanges. They cited some American economists' predictions of a major crisis.

The news was contained in a New York despatch of the Soviet New Agency, Tass, carried in

JAP CABINET RESIGNS

Falls Because It Could Not Defeat Inflation

The Press Takes A Holiday
Katayama Reports To MacArthur

In view of the Chinese New Year Holidays, there will be no issues of the "China Mail" tomorrow, Wednesday, or the following day.

Our next issue will appear on Friday morning, Feb. 13.

H.K. Hotel Dismisses 100 Boys

The Hong Kong Hotel has dismissed close on 100 room boys and waiters as from March 1.

Reason for the lay-off, it is understood, is superfluity of staff and falling off in the restaurant business at the hotel.

The management are reported to have received two protests from the dismissed men.

The lay-off affects about 15 percent of the total establishment of Hong Kong Hotel.

"WAIT AND SEE" POLICY IN KOREA

Seoul, Feb. 9.
High United States military authorities said today that although there had been no new incidents during the past 24 hours it would be "foolish" to consider as ended the Communist-inspired demonstrations against the United Nations Commission on Korea. These already have taken 17 lives.

The authorities are maintaining a "wait and see" attitude as the manifestations enter the third day. They are inclined, however, to minimise the general effectiveness of the strike called in the American-occupied southern zone shortly after the Commission announced it would refer the Korean question to the UN Little Assembly.

They call the situation the "acutest general strike in history."

Only 11 strikes are reported to be still under way despite continued Communist demands that all workers quit. Transportation is normal.

At Lake Success, an American official said the Korea Commission will continue its programme despite the disorders. A spokesman said when the Korea question comes before the Little Assembly on Feb. 24 the United States will maintain its previous position unless there is a severe change in the situation.

This position is to proceed with elections in the southern zone and, eventually, the withdrawal of the United States forces despite the boycott of the Commission by the Russians and their northern zone. — United Press.

Total Of 47 Dead

Seoul, Feb. 9.
The death of 47 persons is attributed today to widespread sabotage in South Korea, aimed at forcing the United Nations Commission for Korean Independence to leave the country.

An anonymous report to National Police Headquarters warned of "riots in Seoul tonight." U.S. Army authorities reported all was quiet. Among those slain in Saturday's demonstrations and disruptions of rail and telegraph service were 36 civilians and 11 policemen.

The Commission has been refused permission to enter Russian-occupied North Korea to conduct nationwide elections preliminary to the establishment of an independent Korean government. It has decided to refer the issue back to the U.N. Little Assembly.

In South Korea, "all-out" for U.S. occupation troops continues. This means a 2,300 curfew for military personnel, armaments of troops on "outside duty," and requires one armed man in any military vehicle carrying five or more persons.

The U.S. Army reported it was unable to evaluate the warning of more trouble tonight, but said Korean police were establishing check-points throughout Seoul to stop non-military vehicles. — Associated Press.

Tokyo, Feb. 9.
Japan's Socialist-led coalition Cabinet fell today and prepared the nation for a swing to Conservatism. Premier Tetsu Katayama's government fell because it could not lick inflation. Its revenue-raising programme was not acceptable to the Leftwing members of the Premier's own Social Democratic Party and other opposition from a Conservative bloc in the Japanese Diet.

Katayama took the Japanese way out when he could have called for a vote of confidence by the Diet. Many observers still are of the opinion that he could have won. Pressure from small vocal groups wrote finish to his Cabinet as has been the case repeatedly in the history of Japan.

This was the end of the first Christian regime in Japan—Katayama is a Presbyterian and received a strongly worded statement from Gen. MacArthur when he took office last June. Today he went again to Gen. MacArthur to report personally his decision to the Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers.

Katayama said he would formerly present his Cabinet's mass-resignation to Emperor Hirohito tomorrow. Observers believe that the next Premier will be either former Prime Minister Shigeru Yoshida or the present Foreign Minister, Hiroshi Ashida. Yoshida is President of the Liberal Party and Ashida heads the Democratic Party.

The Katayama Cabinet frequently weathered political storms on the basis of its tacit backing by Gen. MacArthur's headquarters. Japanese political observers said it lasted much longer than it would have under "normal Japanese circumstances."

Japanese observers foresee an intense fight among the political parties in the selection of the new Premier to succeed Premier Katayama.

New Movement
This afternoon (following the formal Cabinet decision this morning to resign) saw the launching of a movement among some Social Democratic Party members to retain Katayama as premier. Katayama, however, according to sources close to him, will reject such efforts, contending that his Social Democratic Party should be completely out of the succeeding government.

These sources say Katayama personally feels that former Premier Shigeru Yoshida should be elected as his successor because Yoshida is head of the Liberal Party which is at present the No. 1 Opposition party. Whether the Liberal Party, with 119 seats out of 466 seats in the House of Representatives, would be able to muster a majority to elect Yoshida, however, was questioned by observers.

Observers said the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Omakichi Matsuo, would take the initiative in the backstage manoeuvring regarding the election of the new Premier because Katayama would remain completely neutral, merely continuing in office until a successor is elected. Observers could not say whether Matsuo would invite leaders of political parties to a conference.

Dark Horse
Some sources insinuated that Hiroshi Ashida, Foreign Minister of the present Cabinet and President of the Democratic Party, has the best chance of becoming the new premier. Here again, his party has only 100 seats in the House of Representatives and he must have the support of either the Social Democratic Party or the Liberal Party. Under the latest count Democratic Party has 123 seats and the Liberal 119 seats.

Observers saw no likelihood of a compromise between Yoshida and Ashida because of their intense political rivalry. From such consideration, observers predicted the possibility of a dark horse appearing. They said he might eventually be the former Ambassador to Washington and London, Tanaka Matsudaira, at present President of the House of Councillors. — United Press.

Chung Po, described as a 45-year-old unemployed, was dead in his Room 131, Tung Fong Boarding House, No. 187 Connaught Road, Central, at 4:45 p.m. yesterday. The cause of death is believed to be typhoid poisoning.

Canada's Darling



Barbara Ann Scott, of Canada, the world's champion woman skater, is here seen practicing on the Palace Ice Ring at St. Moritz, Switzerland, in preparation for the Winter Olympics. As expected, she won the woman's title. (Associated Press Photo).

"DEPORTATION" A TALE OF INTRIGUE

Manila, Feb. 9.
Behind the "deportation" of the 22 Chinese nightclub hostesses from Hong Kong who are leaving Manila for their home today, is a dramatic story of threat and intrigue, a diplomatic fiasco and a business boomerang.

When the local Chinese community first got wind of the girls' projected trip to act as hostesses at a new nightclub opening here, they carried on a campaign through the local Chinese papers with an anti-proposal on the grounds of Chinese national prestige.

The feeling became so strong that the Chinese Chamber of Commerce took up the fight, which was later joined by the Chinese Legation.

When the situation was approaching the showdown stage, Senator Prospero Sanidad, counsel for the group, pacified the local authorities, including the Chinese community, assuring them he would go to Hong Kong and make a personal investigation.

He subsequently returned—with the girls, who did not possess passports but only visas from the Philippine Consulate in Hong Kong—and reported to President Roxas that everything was in order. The President, convinced of the Senator's sincerity, approved the girls' entry permit.

When the group arrived, two columns of the Manila Chronicle opened an attack on the girls' moral character, which angered the President who ordered the girls' movements be watched closely.

The President then summoned the Senator, who reportedly insisted that the girls' moral character was quite okay but finally agreed to send the girls back to Hong Kong for the "poor peace of mind" of a certain section of Manila's community.

Meanwhile, the Chinese community continued their own campaign against the girls, alleging their continued presence here was damaging Chinese national prestige. — Reuter.

Unified Arab Currency
Cairo, Feb. 8.
Premier Jamil Mardam Bey of Syria said today his Government had proposed a unified currency for all Arab countries.

Mardam Bey said Syria told the Arab League Council that Arab states should sever the connection between their currencies and foreign currencies. The currencies of some Arab states are tied to such foreign currencies as the British Pound and French Franc.

"Economic independence is the solid basis for political independence, as the ultimate aim of imperialism is to exploit economically occupied countries," Mardam Bey said.

"At present the Arab countries are more prosperous than the foreign countries with whose currencies they are linked," Associated Press.

Terror In Towns Of Berkshire

Crowthorne, Feb. 9.
Terror danced to "boogie beat" through rural Berkshire today as asylum guards and emergency police combed the pine woods for the "Drummer of Broadmoor."

Five days ago, Bernard Leslie Mason laid down his drum sticks and slipped unnoticed through the grim gates of Broadmoor Asylum for the Criminal Insane. The drums that gave expression to his tortured mind were silenced.

Mason was seen yesterday for the second time since his escape. Numbly, he stalked through the high street of Crowthorne. A blustering wind blew his unkempt hair. He kept his hands in his pockets, his mad eyes on the ground and he spoke to no one. Through the village he walked, past the asylum—and then he vanished.

Panic shattered the quiet Sabbath afternoon as word spread. The streets were deserted save for police and warders. Cottages were bolted and barred.

Earlier, the search spread through Berkshire as Mason was reported seen in the home of Lady Louisa Shaw at Hurwood. Lady Shaw's cook found him in her bedroom on Saturday evening.

"He jumped from the window to the flat roof 20 feet below. From there he must have lowered himself to the ground and made off," she said.

Special Watch
At Ascot the police maintained a special watch over the ruins of Sunninghill—which was to have been the home of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh before it was destroyed by fire last year. It is less than a mile from Lady Shaw's home.

The police said the ruins of the great house and temporary shelters in the area might provide ideal shelter for the escaped maniac.

From London, Scotland Yard issued a special warning to all dance band leaders to be on a lookout for Mason. They believed the call of the drums might lead Mason to seek a job with a band.

One non-hep constable commented: "It must be pretty hard to tell about drummers." — United Press.

ELECTIONS
London, Feb. 8.

A decree providing for Italian general elections on April 18, approved yesterday by the Council of Ministers, was signed today by the President of the Republic, Signor Enrico de Nicola. Rome Radio reported. — Reuter.

with "borrowing" up to half a month's salary.

So far as could be gathered, none of the European personnel in any Government department have yet been paid. The majority of them have not even received their final forms, it was learned yesterday.

Herculean Efforts By Govt.

Despite Herculean efforts by an augmented staff, Government found itself unable to fully realise its expectations, expressed in a circular issued by the Accountant-General on Jan. 7 in denial of the "China Mail" report that Civil Servants would not be getting a big fat sum for Chinese New Year, to pay all its Chinese staff their back pay yesterday.

A large number of departmental payments have been paid in full but there remain a few whose Chinese staff had to be content

Japanese "Triple Cross" Failed

Tokyo, Feb. 9.
Eighty-year-old former Foreign Minister Gen. Kazushige Ugaki, with a reference to Hong Kong, today unfolded the story of the "triple cross" in which Japan during 1938 desperately tried to conclude peace with the Chinese Government under Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

With the China war going full blast, top Japanese officials with whom Ugaki identified himself found themselves in a race to capture Hankow either by war or by peace.

Secret contacts envisaging peace, Ugaki told the Allied War Crimes Tribunal, were being made with Chiang through Japanese diplomatic agents in Hong Kong while the Japanese war machine was rolling toward the Chinese capital at Hankow.

At the same time, Ugaki's group of statesmen had to keep everything ultra-secret from the Japanese people as the precedent Japanese government had already told them that Japan would have nothing further to do with Chiang's administration—that peace would be settled through Japanese puppet regimes.

Witness said defendant Gen. Satoshi Ugaki, who was War Minister at the time, was in "general agreement" with the peace clique.

Under cross-examination by the Chinese prosecutor, Mr. Judson Y. Y. Nyi, the witness said although the peace effort never reached a "favourable" stage, he estimated if it were continued it would have eventually succeeded. Chiang's retirement from public life was not one of the conditions attached to the Japanese peace overtures, Ugaki said.

He added his acceptance of the Foreign Ministry had been predicated on the withdrawal in practice of Japan's earlier official stand repudiating Chiang's administration as the legitimate Chinese government. — United Press.

The Weather
A weak anticyclone covers China, with a ridge extending to Korea and the Yellow Sea; a shallow depression centred S. of Korea is moving E.
Today's Forecast: Moderate N or NW winds. Cloudy with occasional drizzle. Occasional cold.

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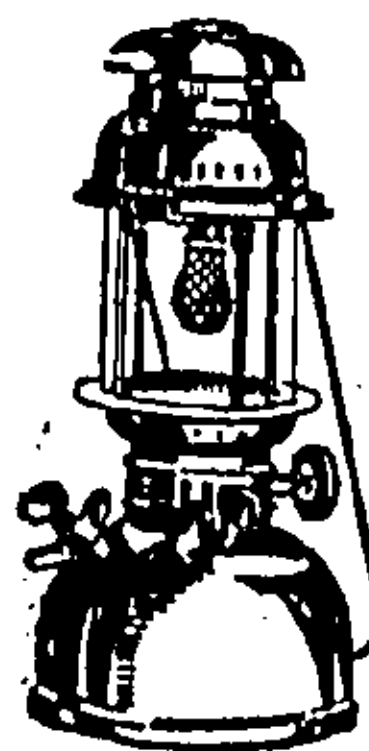
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MURDER APPEAL DISMISSED

Dim View Taken By Police

"We take a very serious view of the case as defendant was employed as a watchman and was in a position of trust," said Inspector J. Orem when Wan On, 27, Kowloon, God was watchman, pleaded guilty to larceny of 60 lbs. of lead oxide, valued at \$300.

Defendant was sentenced by Mr. W. H. Latimer to six months' hard labour.

Inspector Orem informed the Court that at 6 a.m. on Feb. 8, Watchman Chan Wah-hing, on duty near No. 37 Godown, saw accused attempting to climb over the wall into the street. He also saw something hanging over the wall, tied with a piece of string. Chan shouted to the man to stop. Defendant came down from the wall and ran off. He was chased and arrested by his colleague.

Questioned by Wharf Police Inspector George Tavastjerna, defendant admitted stealing a bag containing 60 lbs. of lead oxide.

Application Refused By Full Court

The murder case in which Hong Kong's first woman jurors returned a verdict of guilty, was recalled yesterday when an application by Lit Chun alias Ng Chun for leave to appeal against his conviction was dismissed by the Full Court comprising Mr. Justice T. J. Gould (Puisne Judge) and Mr. Justice J. Reynolds (Acting Additional Judge).

Mr. A. J. Clifford appeared for the Crown, while Lit Chun, the accused, was represented by Mr. Percy Chen.

Accused, formerly in the Anti Malaria Bureau, was found guilty, by a jury, on Jan. 7, 1948, of having murdered a fellow worker, Ng Shui, on July 28, 1947. He was sentenced to death by Mr. Justice Williams (Chief Justice).

Mr. Chen said that the application of accused for leave to appeal was based on five grounds:

The verdict was unreasonable and could not be supported, having regard to the evidence.

The learned judge omitted to put the defence adequately to the jury.

The learned judge was wrong in instructing the medical expert

witness not to answer questions put by Counsel for the defence on the grounds that he, the medical expert, was not bound to answer questions of a hypothetical nature.

Death Blow

The learned judge was wrong in excluding evidence of the medical expert witness which would have proved that the alleged fatal injury could have been caused in a manner other than that alleged by the prosecution.

The learned judge was wrong in law when he told the jury, in his summing up that "it does not matter whether the Crown has proved that the stick produced inflicted the death blow or not as long as you are satisfied that a similar stick could have caused the injury."

Continuing, Mr. Chen said that the questions which he put to the medical expert witness is cross-examination were to test the skill of witness. On the authorities, it was right to question expert witnesses by means of hypothetical queries.

The nature of the blow and the instrument with which it was inflicted were the most important elements of the case.

It was the duty of the Crown to prove conclusively that the wound caused the death and that accused inflicted the blow.

It was also absolutely imperative for the Crown to produce evidence of malice, express or implied.

The Crown had not produced any evidence of express malice, but had sought to prove implied malice to obtain a conviction for murder.

No Evidence

To do this, the Crown had produced the stick, but no evidence was adduced.

There was no evidence that the stick was anywhere near the place where the skeleton was found.

There was one lot of evidence to prove that the stick was used to inflict the wound.

The only motive suggested by the Crown for the alleged murder was that the accused owed deceased money.

Dealing with the summing up by Mr. Justice Williams, Mr. Chan said that the learned trial judge devoted considerable time to criticizing the defence of accused and read into the accused's statement something more than should have been read.

After Mr. Justice Gould had intimated that the Court only wished to hear the Crown on the first ground of appeal, Mr. Clifford said that the material facts were not challenged at the end of the Crown case.

"Lies"

Accused did not go into the witness box to give explanations regarding the extraordinary lies he had told.

The motive which had been suggested by accused for the fight between himself and deceased, namely, a sudden flare up over the quarrel between their respective wives, did not carry weight.

The positions of the wound on the skull was inconsistent with a fight and pointed to deceased having been attacked from behind.

Few Bids At Sale Of Land

Unlike previous Crown land auctions there was practically no bidding at yesterday's sale at the PWD offices.

For \$21,600—only \$100 above the upset price—Mr. Ip Ching-ling, of No. 160 (2nd Flr.), Prince Edward Road, Kowloon, bought a 43,000-square-foot plot

on Tai Po Road known as New Kowloon Inland Lot No. 3512. The annual rental is \$700.

The conditions of sale apparently were the discouraging factor. One condition was that "no supply from the Government Waterworks will be available. The purchaser shall make his own arrangements with regard to water supply."

Another condition was that "the purchaser shall not interfere with any existing drain, waterway or nullah within or adjoining the lot or have any right to the water therein."

After Mr. Ip had put the price up by \$100, there was a long pause, during which there were discussions in whispers among two small groups of men. No further bidding resulted.

The price put the rate of the land at a little over 60 cents per square foot.

The purchaser must erect two detached residences of European style with garden and all proper out-buildings.

Tough Tailor Would Not Be Searched

A Shanghai tailor refused to be searched by two plainclothes-detectives at the junction of Cross Lane and Barrow Street, behind the Cathay Theatre, last Saturday evening.

When challenged, he took out a whisky bottle and, despite the revolver confronting him, hit the torch on him onto the ground, breaking it.

He even renounced the identification cards of the police and walked away. The two detectives followed him towards Wanchai Road, intending to take him to the Station. He demanded to see their passes and when one was produced he snatched it, crumpled it in his pocket and walked into the Cathay Theatre.

There the detectives rang up for reinforcements, while the tailor remained with them in the manager's office.

"Why they didn't arrest him at once, I don't know," the Prosecuting Officer told Mr. J.G. Conklin at Central Magistracy.

Police Pass

Defendant appeared to be under the influence of drink and when searched the police pass was found crumpled in his pocket.

Hui, who claimed to have stayed here for 12 years, said that had the police showed their passes first before ordering him to be searched he would have complied with their request. "I allowed them to search me when we were in the lighted street," he added.

Mr. Conklin found the Shanghai tailor guilty and fined him \$100. "You have been a public nuisance," the Magistrate remarked. A confiscation order was made for the bottle of wine.

Reminders

Today

Kowloon Cricket Club Chinese New Year Dance 8 p.m.
Kowloon Tong Club New Year Dance 8 p.m.

Women's Guild Meeting, Kowloon Union Church, 10 a.m.
Chinese New Year Thanksgiving Services, 7 a.m. 8.30 a.m. Catholic Churches.

Interport Football: Hong Kong v. Shanghai, Club ground, Happy Valley, 3.30 p.m.
Annual Cricket Match: Combined Services v. Colony.

Bridge Drive, European YMCA, 8 p.m.
Cocktail Party, Hong Kong Cricket Club, 6.30 p.m.

Coming Events

TOMORROW
Annual Cricket Match: Colony v. Combined Services.

Interport Football, Club Ground, 3.30 p.m.
Wah Yan Past Students Association Dinner Dance, Roof Garden, H.K. Hotel, 8 p.m. to midnight.

YMCA Debating Society, "Hat Night" debate, 8.30 p.m.
Attaboy Shield, Kowloon Bowling Green Club, 10 a.m.

THURSDAY

H.K. Chinese Football Association Dinner in honour of Shanghai Interport Team, Kam Ling Restaurant, 7.30 p.m.

FRIDAY

Women's World Day of Prayer, St. John's Cathedral, 3 p.m.
Annual General Meeting, St. Andrew's Church, Church Hall, 8.30 p.m.

Kowloon Rotary Club Luncheon, Talk by Capt. Luff on "Three Steps to Democracy," Peninsula Hotel, 12.30 p.m.

Caught In The Act

The vigilance of DSI Chek Ho-ka (Eastern) saved three Chinese from losing a parcel of New Year prerequisites at the Southern Playground, Wanchai, on Sunday evening.

DSI Chek observed a group following three Chinese shopping among the stalls, and arrested 18-year-old Leung King-hung as he put his hand on the parcel, which one of the unsuspecting shoppers was carrying. The others ran away.

Leung, who claimed to be born here and an orphan, said he wanted money to buy a dress.

Defendant, with no previous conviction against him, was sentenced by Mr. J.G. Conklin at Central Magistracy yesterday to three months' hard labour and expulsion for loitering with unlawful intent.

Charged with stealing lead-covered wire, two young unemployed were sentenced to hard labour by Mr. J.G. Conklin at Central Magistracy yesterday.

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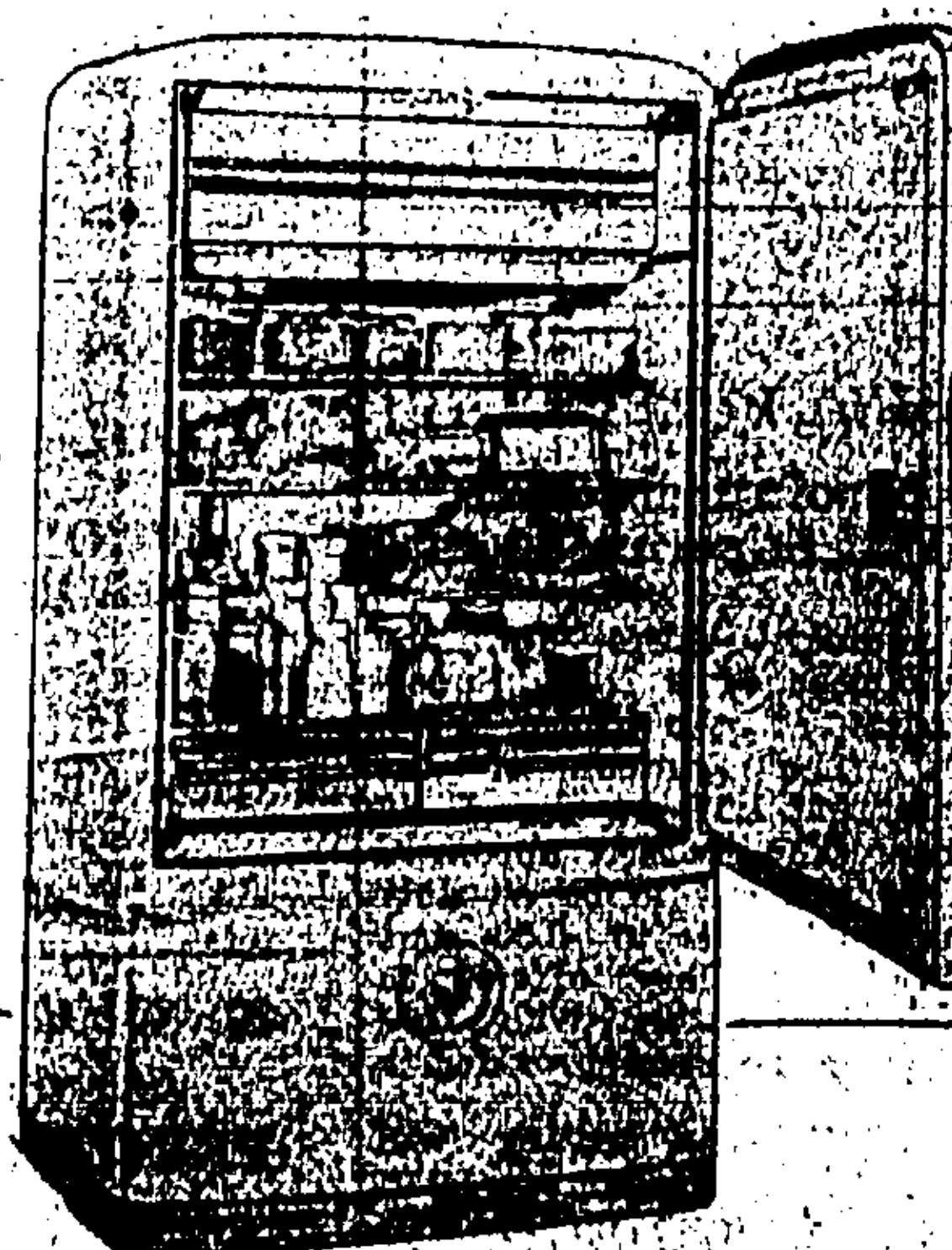
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CHINA FLEET CLUB Appointment of a Night Superintendent A vacancy exists for the appointment of a Night Superintendent at the China Fleet Club. The duration of the appointment will be for three years. The person appointed will be required to be on duty from midnight to 9.00 a.m. daily. The salary offered is \$700-\$800 monthly with food and single quarters provided.

Applications in writing will be received by the Manager, China Fleet Club up to 20th February, 1948, from whom further information of the appointment can be obtained.

WM. T. WAGHORN, Manager.

THE GOLDEN GATE PRINTING PRESS The BEST name in job printing. Specialize in Copperplate and Die Stamping, Letterheads, Visiting Cards, Booklets, Balance Sheets, Envelopes. Also Copper, Rubber, Horn & Ivory Stamps. Makers. All kinds of stationery and printing of every description.

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SIE KEUNG PRINTING PRESS PRINTERS OF CHINESE & ENGLISH BOOKS PERIODICALS & NEWSPAPERS

27 LYNHURST TERRACE HONG KONG TELEPHONE 27603

HONG KONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION

ORDINARY YEARLY GENERAL MEETING.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Ordinary Yearly General Meeting of the Shareholders of the Corporation will be held at the Head Office of the Corporation, 1 Queen's Road Central, Hongkong, on Friday the 5th day of March, 1948, at 11.30 a.m. for the purpose of receiving and considering the reports of the Directors and of the Auditors and the Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st December, 1947, and for the election of Directors and the appointment of Auditors.

The Register of Shares of the Corporation will be closed from Friday, the 20th February to Friday the 5th March, 1948 (both days inclusive) during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Board.
A. MORSE,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 6th February, 1948.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED

NOTICE is hereby given that the Fifth Annual Ordinary Yearly Meeting of the Company (since registration) will be held at the Hong Kong Hotel, Hong Kong, on Friday, 20th February, 1948, at 12 noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, together with the Statement of Accounts for the period ended 31st October, 1947, and to elect Directors and appoint Auditors.

The Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from Tuesday, 10th February, 1948, to Friday, 20th February, 1948, both days inclusive.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON, LIMITED,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 31st Jan., 1948.

NOTICE

Plans are being made to open an INDEPENDENT PRIVATE SCHOOL for girls and boys, to be run on the DALTON PLAN. Priority will be given to students registering early. For further information application should be made immediately in writing, to the PRINCIPALS MRS. M. M. THOMAS and MR. E. C. THOMAS, B.Sc., F.R.G.S., ROYDEN HOUSE, Kowloon Tong.

KING'S MUSIC CO.

Pianos by famous makers, Record Players for AC/DC, "Columbia" portable gramophones, musical instruments, accessories, piano tuning & general repairs.

5, Chiu Lung St. Telephone 30439 (Entrance Opposite "Loke Yew" Bldg.)

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SIE KEUNG PRINTING PRESS PRINTERS OF CHINESE & ENGLISH BOOKS PERIODICALS & NEWSPAPERS

27 LYNHURST TERRACE HONG KONG TELEPHONE 27603

HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ordinary Yearly Meeting of Shareholders will be held at the Hong Kong Hotel, Hong Kong, on Friday, 27th February, 1948, at 12.00 NOON, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts for the Year ended 31st December, 1947, and for the election of Directors and the appointment of Auditors.

And NOTICE is further hereby given that the Register and Transfer Books of the Company will be closed from the 14th to the 27th February, 1948, both days inclusive, during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON, LTD.
General Managers

Hongkong, 6th February, 1948.

NOTICE

Mr. K.G. Blair, having disposed of his interest in our firm, has retired as from today's date, and all his interest and responsibility therein has ceased as from today's date.

BLAIR & CO. LTD.
7th, February 1948.

LAMMERT BROS.

Auctioneers, Surveyors, etc. Basement, French Bank Bldg., A.E.B. de Sousa, Auctioneer. Telephone 31807.

Service Auction Rooms

Auctioneers, Surveyors, etc. Basement, French Bank Bldg., A.E.B. de Sousa, Auctioneer. Telephone 31807.

Beten's Beauty Salons

You can trust your personal Beauty Problems - your Permanent Waves, Shampoo, Sets, Tinting, Facials, Manicure, Pedicure to Beten's expert operators (1st floor) above Lane Crawford's. Tel. 33161.

ACTED MOST SUSPICIOUSLY

Seen behaving in a suspicious manner in Argyle Street, Chau Shek-yau, 19, was picked up by a Chinese detective at 7.15 p.m. on Feb. 7.

Questioned at the Police Station, he admitted being a member of the Chuen On Triad Society.

Charged before Mr. W.A. Blair-Kerr by Det. Sub-Inspector C. Pope with being a member of an unlawful society Chau, who had two previous convictions for larceny, was sentenced to six months' hard labour and recommended for banishment.

ACID INDIGESTION?

Get the Quick relief you want with the Alkalizer you need.

ALKA SELTZER

Are you ever bothered by sour and acid upset stomach, gas, and that ache-all-over feeling? This may be from overeating or overindulging, worry and nervous tension due to overwork. Suggest-That's the time for you to remember Alka-Seltzer!

Double-Acting Relief! Alka-Seltzer, almost immediately relieves pains and discomfort due to acid indigestion. Moreover, it helps correct the excess stomach acidity that causes so much of the trouble. Thus, you benefit by this two-way action.

Over 25,000,000 people have tried and proved Alka-Seltzer. Not a laxative, but a modern formula based on proven medical principles. Just drop one tablet into a glass of water. Watch it fizz and dissolve. Erase it from its pleasant, tangy taste. It can make you feel better almost immediately. Try Alka-Seltzer today!

Always use Hudson's Eumenthol Jujubes

For Coughs, Colds, Influenza, Sore Throats and Hoarseness, let your sure protection be Hudson's Eumenthol Jujubes, the medicated pastille that is pleasant to take and is a most powerful and safe germicide and antiseptic.

Always use Hudson's Eumenthol Jujubes

Franco Having Trouble

TANGIERS, FEB. 8. SPANISH TROOPS OPENED FIRE ON A MOORISH NATIONALIST PROCESSION IN TETUAN, CHIEF TOWN OF THE SPANISH ZONE OF MOROCCO, TODAY, KILLING AND WOUNDING AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF PEOPLE.

This followed declaration of a general strike in Tetuan by all Moors on Friday and Saturday because the Spanish authorities refused to allow two Nationalist movement leaders to enter the Spanish Zone.

All Nationalist executives were arrested and their headquarters or camp.

The procession, which was fired on, was on its way to the Pasha's house to lodge a protest.

Spanish and Foreign Legion troops were substituted for Moroccan troops two days ago, it was learned. Reports tonight described the situation as "very strained."—Reuter.

INDONESIAN MOVE

Batavia, Feb. 9. The dissolution of the Indonesian Republican Army Supreme Command and of the United Services Staff was announced in an Indonesian Presidential decree today, the Dutch news agency, Aneta, reported here.

Commanders Soerjadi and (Colonel) B. Simatupang have been temporarily appointed Chief and Deputy Chief of Staff of the armed forces in the Ministry of Defence to carry out a thorough reorganization of the Services, the agency reported.

General Soerjadi, former Commander in Chief of the Republican Army, has been appointed Supreme Commander of the mobile forces.—Reuter.

BROTHEL-KEEPER FINED \$250

A fine of \$250 with the option of two months' hard labour was imposed on Chan Sui Hui, 50-year-old widow, by Mr. F. X. d'Almeida at Central Magistracy yesterday for keeping a brothel at an unnumbered hut near Ship Street at the rear of Queen's Road East.

Inspector Davis said he found the hut divided into three cubicles and found two girls with two European naval ratings.

On a further charge of having an inflammable structure erected without permission from the building authorities defendant was fined \$50 or a month's hard labour.

FOOD AND FUEL COSTS

Food and Fuel Costs for the week ending Feb. 7:—

Rice and Flour	7.2 cwt.	\$5.5900
Vegetables	1.9 "	1.0830
Salt Cabbage	2 "	.3200
Oil	2 "	1.7350
Tea	2 "	.9600
Fish	3 "	.8100
Salt Fish	4 "	1.0950
Pork	3 "	.9990
Firewood	10.0 "	1.3000
Bean Curd, 14 pieces		.7000
Total		\$14.5943

PONTIFF ON ATOM BOMB

Vatican City, Feb. 8. The Pope today told members of the Pontifical Academy of Science that he "confidently hoped the use of atomic energy would be turned exclusively to works of peace."

Declaring that the atom bomb was "the most terrible weapon ever invented by the human brain," the Pope added that scientific discoveries proved again that "the laws of nature form part of God's eternal laws."—Reuter.

READERS' LETTERS

Sir,—Some ten months ago I was in South Australia on leave from Hong Kong and before returning to the Colony received a request to try and find a correspondent interested in stamp collecting and current affairs.

Unfortunately I left before I could make any enquiries but would be very grateful if you could follow same up for me through the medium of your paper.

Age and sex make no difference and name and address is as under:
Mr. Allan Stanley (Aged 26)
79, Harrgrave Street,
Largs Bay,
South Australia.

M. C.

Marine Court

Pleading guilty to not having on board a certified engineer when entering the Colony, Chan Cheung, coxswain of a motor junk, was fined \$150 or six weeks by Mr. N. Garland, Marine Magistrate, yesterday.

According to S.I. McCarthy of the Water Police, defendant's motor junk was intercepted entering the Colony through Lyemum Pass at 4.05 a.m. on Saturday.

Defendant told the Court that he had a certified engineer, but had left him behind at Pak Hoi owing to illness.

For tying her boat alongside a Medical Officer's launch alongside the s.s. Leopoldskerk at the quarantine anchorage at 10.30 a.m. yesterday, Leung Tai-ho, mistress of a passenger boat, was fined \$20 or one week when she pleaded guilty before the Marine Magistrate, Mr. N. Garland yesterday.

S.I. McCarthy said that defendant's boat was seen to unload passengers into the Medical Officer's launch.

Defendant stated that she carried six passengers, all of whom were guards of the ship. The fare for all six was \$5.

QUICK RELIEF!

PAIN HEADACHE SLEEPLESSNESS NERVENESS

There is no need to keep on suffering pain, headache, nervousness, and sleeplessness. 'Aspro' tablets will bring you QUICK RELIEF. There is nothing as swift or certain as 'Aspro' tablets and 'ASPRO' is so safe to use—even a child can take it. 'Aspro' does not form a habit.

PACKETS—5, 11 & 27 TABLETS.

ASPRO

TRADE MARK

Sole Agents, DODWELL & CO., LTD. Hong Kong & Shanghai Bank Building

UPACO

Drugs Kept By "Chinese Doctor"

No curative power is claimed for PHILIP MORRIS, but—

"It is obvious that he is practising Western medicine instead of Chinese medicine," said Inspector Davis, prosecuting Tsai Tak Sing, 45-year-old Chinese doctor, who appeared at Central Magistracy yesterday on a charge of possession of poisonous drugs—liquid extract of Ergot, Tinct. Digitalis, 51 tablets of Sulphadiazine, and one ampoule of strychnine.

Defendant pleaded "guilty" and was fined \$600. The drugs were ordered to be forfeited.

Inspector Davis said that when the cubicle where defendant was living was raided he was absent and was not found until Saturday morning. Other patent medicines were found but they did not come under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance and were returned to defendant.

RADIO

TODAY
ZBW Hong Kong broadcasting on a frequency of 845 kilocycles from 12.15 to 2.00 p.m. and from 6.00 to 11.00 p.m., and also on 952 megacycles in the 31 metre band from 12.15 to 1.30, 6.30 to 7.30 and 9.00 to 11.00 p.m.

H.K.T.
12.15 p.m.—Studio: Religious Talk to Children.
12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.
12.32 p.m.—Light Variety Programme with Hildegarde (Voice).
1.00 p.m.—Mastercard and His Orchestra.
1.15 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.
1.25 p.m.—Orchestral Interlude.
1.30 p.m.—"From the Show": Reviews.
2.00 p.m.—Close Down.

6.00 p.m.—H.K.T. Transcription Service: "Navy Mixture".
6.30 p.m.—Music from "China Town".
6.50 p.m.—Studio: "See You on Spot"—Hong Kong v Shanghai.
7.00 p.m.—London Relay: World and Home News.
7.15 p.m.—Studio: Set Fuller at the Piano.
7.30 p.m.—Studio: Stage and Screen Favourites presented by Alison Wood.
8.00 p.m.—H.K.T. Transcription Service: "The Haunted Inn".
8.35 p.m.—The Boston Promenade Orch.
9.00 p.m.—London Relay: News.
9.10 p.m.—Weather Report.
9.11 p.m.—Studio: A Talk by the Rev. Father T. F. Ryan, R.C. "Great Commandment".
9.45 p.m.—Music of Brahms.
10.00 p.m.—London Relay: Radio News Reel.
10.15 p.m.—Relay of the Ambassador Dance Orch. with Tina Gatchell.
11.00 p.m.—Close Down.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 11
ZBW Hong Kong broadcasting on a frequency of 845 kilocycles from 12.15 to 2.00 p.m. and from 6.00 to 11.00 p.m., and also on 952 megacycles in the 31 metre band from 12.15 to 1.30, 6.30 to 7.30 and 9.00 to 11.00 p.m.

H.K.T.
12.15 p.m.—Studio: Morning Prayers.
12.30 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.
12.32 p.m.—Favourites from the Films.
1.00 p.m.—Studio: Hamish Morrison at the Piano.
1.15 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.
1.25 p.m.—Orchestral Interlude.
1.30 p.m.—Liverpool Philharmonic Orch. with Gladys Ripley (Soprano) and Webster Booth (Tenor).
2.00 p.m.—Close Down.
6.00 p.m.—Studio: Children's Half Hour.
6.30 p.m.—H.K.T. Transcription Service: "In His Majesty's Service" Ep. 2.
6.50 p.m.—Orchestra Raymonds and William Brownlee.
7.00 p.m.—London Relay: World and Home News.
7.15 p.m.—Studio: A Talk—Early days of the Bala Trust by Donald McCullough. (Quintet of the R.H.C. Brass Trust).
7.30 p.m.—Studio: "I Drink You Music".
Classical Request Programme presented by Marion Glover.
8.35 p.m.—Andre Kostelanets and His Orch. and Morton and Kaye (2 Pianos).
9.00 p.m.—London Relay: News.
9.10 p.m.—News Report.
9.11 p.m.—Interlude.
9.15 p.m.—London Relay: "The Sun Demetrius".
10.00 p.m.—London Relay: Radio News Reel.
10.15 p.m.—H.K.T. Transcription Service: "Beau Geste" by P.C. Wren Ep. 10. "Flight into the Desert".
10.45 p.m.—Studio: Epilogue.
11.00 p.m.—Close Down.

THURSDAY, FEB. 12
ZBW Hong Kong broadcasting on a frequency of 845 kilocycles from 12.15 to 2.00 p.m. and from 6.00 to 11.00 p.m., and also on 952 megacycles in the 31 metre band from 12.15 to 1.30, 6.30 to 7.30 and 9.00 to 11.00 p.m.

H.K.T.
12.15 p.m.—Daily Programme Summary.
12.32 p.m.—Glenn Miller and His Orch. and The Ink Spots.
1.00 p.m.—H.K.T. Transcription Service: "Serenade to the Stars".
1.15 p.m.—News, Weather Report and Announcements.
1.25 p.m.—Blazers on Parade.
1.35 p.m.—The Orchestra of the Royal Air Force conducted by W. Commander R.P. O'Donnell, M.V.O.
2.00 p.m.—Close Down.
6.00 p.m.—Studio: Rhythmic Review Presented by Philip Burn.
6.30 p.m.—Studio: La Danse-Hours Franciscan.
7.00 p.m.—London Relay: World and Home News.
7.15 p.m.—H.K.T. Transcription Service: "ITM" with Tommy Handley.
7.45 p.m.—Popular Hits from the Theatre Guild Production "Oklahoma".
8.15 p.m.—H.K.T. Transcription Service: "Germinal" Her Character and Description. By Dr. Thomas Mann.
8.45 p.m.—H.K.T. Transcription Service: Fred Hartley and His Music.
9.00 p.m.—London Relay: News.
9.10 p.m.—Weather Report.
9.11 p.m.—Studio: Book Reviews Presented by A.D. Endicott.
9.35 p.m.—Ballet Music.
10.00 p.m.—London Relay: Radio News Reel.
10.15 p.m.—H.K.T. Transcription Service: "When the Gods Love".
10.45 p.m.—Studio: "Gladys Pathetic" with Gladys Ripley and His Radio "Gladys".
11.00 p.m.—Close Down.

No curative power is claimed for PHILIP MORRIS, but—

AN OUNCE OF PREVENTION

is Worth a Pound of Cure!

PHILIP MORRIS!—proved less irritating to nose and throat... famed for finer flavor and aroma... keener smoking pleasure!

CALL FOR PHILIP MORRIS

America's Finest Cigarette

E. OTT & CO., LTD. Sole Distributors French Bank Bldg. Telephone: 32580.

You owe your eyes something!

They work so hard to meet every new strain, taxing nerves and muscles to the limit. And they change inevitably with age.

Professional service is preventive as often as corrective. Consult at the first suggestion of trouble.

Chinese Optical Co.

Refracting & Manufacturing Opticians
47 Queen's Road, C. Tel. 23368

Quick Relief!

PAIN HEADACHE SLEEPLESSNESS NERVENESS

There is no need to keep on suffering pain, headache, nervousness, and sleeplessness. 'Aspro' tablets will bring you QUICK RELIEF. There is nothing as swift or certain as 'Aspro' tablets and 'ASPRO' is so safe to use—even a child can take it. 'Aspro' does not form a habit.

PACKETS—5, 11 & 27 TABLETS.

ASPRO

TRADE MARK

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UPACO

OPENING: **QUEEN'S** AT 11.30
TO-DAY 2.30, 5.15
7.15 & 9.15 P.M.

EXTRA PERFORMANCE TO-DAY
& TO-MORROW AT 11.30 A.M.

make your heart
throb with
CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA
TECHNICOLOR

DICK HAYMES · VERA-ELLEN
CESAR ROMERO · CELESTE HOLM

20th CENTURY-FOX PRESENTS

— THURSDAY, FEB. 12th —
EXTRA MORNING SHOW AT 1.30 A.M.

"VARIETY PROGRAM"

Colored Cartoons · Comedies · Special
Short "CALLING ALL HOLLYWOOD BEAUTIES"
AT REDUCED PRICES!

SHOWING: **KING'S** AT 2.30, 5.15
TO-DAY 7.20 & 9.30 p.m.

HE SINGS! HE
DANCES! AND HOW
HE ROMANCES!

Van!
in M-G-M's
MUSICAL
WHIRLWIND in
TECHNICOLOR

VAN JOHNSON
ESTHER WILLIAMS
LUCILLE BALL
KEENAN WYNN

Easy to Wed

AN M-G-M PICTURE

CECIL KELLAWAY
CARLOS RAMIREZ · DEN BLUE
ETHEL SMITH at the Organ
Directed by EDWARD RUSSELL
Produced by JACK CUMMINGS

ALSO LATEST METRO NEWS

TO-DAY TO MONDAY 16th.
AT 10.30 A.M. & 12.30 P.M.
"LONG LIVE THE WIFE"

A CHINESE PICTURE with MANDARIN DIALOGUE

6 SHOWS TO-DAY **Cathay** AT 11.00 A.M.
12.45, 2.30,
1.20 & 9.20 P.M.

ROLLIN with RAYTHI! ROLLIN with LAUGHS!

WARNERS HIT A NEW NOTE IN MUSICALS!

THE TIME THE PLACE AND THE GIRL

DENNIS MORGAN
JACK CARSON
JANIS PAIGE
MARTHA VICKERS

Directed by DAVID BUTLER

TODAY EXTRA SHOWS AT 11.00 a.m. & 12.45 p.m.
LAUREL & HARDY in **"BOHEMIAN GIRL"**

TO-MORROW AT 11.00 A.M. & 12.45 P.M.
"VASSILISSA THE CHARMING"
A RUSSIAN PICTURE

SECRET "BOMB SCHOOLS"

Arabs Train Under Explosive Experts

"Testing Ground" Jewish Shops

Jerusalem, Feb. 8. Secret "bomb schools" have been set up by the Arabs in different parts of Palestine and are believed to be under the direction of Iraqi, Syrian or other "outside volunteer" explosives experts, according to British security officials here.

Two empty Jewish shops, destroyed by heavy explosions in the burned-out commercial centre of Jerusalem today, were believed by authoritative circles to be testing centres for various types of explosives manufactured by "students" at the underground "schools," where they are trained in the use of modern explosives.

About six shops and stores in the deserted "testing ground" of the commercial centre of Jerusalem have already been blasted by different types of experimental bombs. No loss of life has resulted from the recent explosions.

British officials believe that the "barrel bombs" used by the Arabs in recent explosions, such as that which blasted the offices of the Palestine Post, were planned in such schools.

Road Mining

The Arab guerrillas on the hills surrounding Jerusalem have now begun a campaign of road mining to halt convoys, mostly those between Jerusalem and the Jewish town of Tel Aviv, and these mines have already taken a toll of several vehicles.

The minings are apparently designed to force the occupants of armoured buses, blasted by the explosion, to leave the vehicles and thus present unprotected targets to Arab snipers, entrenched in the hills flanking the ambushed positions on the roads.

A mine detection squad leading a Jewish convoy from Tel Aviv to

Jerusalem today found and dismantled a road-mine buried in the convoy's path with wires leading to a position on the hills.

In Culvert

One road-mine blasted a vehicle in a Jewish funeral procession going to the Mount of Olives.

A military armoured car on the Jerusalem-Tel Aviv road, was overturned by the explosion of a road-mine yesterday and two soldiers slightly injured.

Troops unearthed another mine along the road and shortly afterwards Jewish settlers found a mine hidden in a culvert on the road leading to a Jewish settlement nearby.—Reuter.

U.S. Policy In Germany

Washington, Feb. 8. The Secretary of State, Mr. George Marshall, said today, in a letter to Senator Arthur Vandenberg, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, that it would be unwise to stop the shipment of German plants to other European nations merely because Russia had broken the Potsdam Agreement.

The dismantling of German plants now idle would aid, Mr. Marshall wrote, the economic recovery of Europe, as they could be put to use elsewhere.

He spoke of "the Soviet's refusal to follow in practice the principles of German self-support and capacity to pay, and of the economic unity laid down in the Potsdam Agreement."

"It would be obviously be unwise to abandon the Potsdam repatriation settlement merely by reason of Soviet malfeasance," he added.—Reuter.

No Relaxing Of Austerity Ban

Shanghai, Feb. 9. Reports that the Government authorities were prepared to reconsider the ban on cabarets and ballrooms following the recent rioting in Shanghai by cabaret employees, were denied last night by Mr. Chiang Kai-shek, chairman of the special Executive Yuan committee supervising the enforcement of the national austerity drive.

Mr. Chiang asserted the Government would carry through its declared policy regarding closing dancer halls throughout the country.

With regard to future employment for dancing girls, Mr. Chiang suggested the cabaret owners convert their establishments into restaurants serving cheap meals and thus create jobs for some of the girls. Mr. Chiang also revealed that the Government authorized two cabarets to keep open temporarily in Tientsin for the benefit of members of the American service units stationed at that port.—Reuter.

SYRIANS FIRE ON JEWS

Jerusalem, Feb. 8. Syrian regular troops were reported by Jewish sources in Tel Aviv tonight have fired on Jews near the "Bridge of the Daughters of Jacob" on the Palestine-Syria frontier today. There were no casualties, sources added.—Reuter.

Chiang On Holiday

Nanking, Feb. 9. Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek yesterday slipped quietly out of Nanking for a few days vacation at Chinese New Year at Kuling mountain—his favourite resort.

The Generalissimo, accompanied by his wife and a few aides, flew to Kuling in his special plane, "Meiling."

Although Chiang left the capital at a time when the military situation in Manchuria is grave, the political and economic situation has been brightened somewhat by reports of a more favourable American aid plan totalling US\$570,000,000.

The fact that Chiang took his aides with him indicated that the President planned to devote much of his time during his rest to private study of all phases of Government life.—United Press.

Gunfire Heard In Athens

ATHENS, FEB. 8. ARTILLERY BOOMED ALL YESTERDAY AFTERNOON IN THE HILL COUNTRY BEYOND MOUNT PARNES, NEAR THE NORTHWEST OUTSKIRTS OF ATHENS.

Greek armed forces and gendarmerie converging from different directions had contacted the guerrillas, who, on Friday, staged a raid on two villages only a few miles from the centre of Athens.

Fighting went on from early afternoon until the evening, the Athens news agency said.

The guerrilla positions were spotted from the air earlier in the day and were subjected to an air attack before the ground forces opened up.

As soon as dusk fell, the guerrillas began to withdraw, fleeing through the ravines, the agency added.

Troops, following up the guerrillas, have closed the passage across the river Assopos, and are in control of the passes leading from Mount Parnes to the plain of Thebes and southwest to the passes of the Cithaeron Range in an effort to close the escape routes.—Reuter.

NEW YEAR
TO-DAY **MAJESTIC** ATTRACTION
FIVE SHOWS FROM FEB. 10TH. TO 12TH.
AT 12.00, 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.

It's got that falling-in-love feeling...

YOLANDA
and the **THIEF**

FRED ASTAIRE BREMER
FRANK MORGAN
in TECHNICOLOR

ORIENTAL

To Our Patrons
WISHING YOU A HAPPY & PROSPEROUS
NEW YEAR.
The Management.

— NEW YEAR ATTRACTION —
5 SHOWS DAILY: 12.30, 2.30, 5.15, 7.20 & 9.20 p.m.

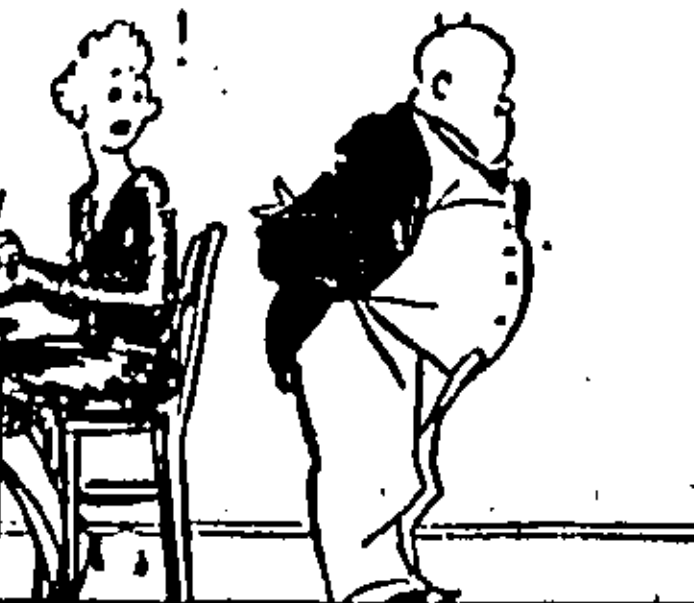
M-G-M's BIGGEST TECHNICOLOR SPECTACLE!

FIESTA
(Where they live and love dangerously)

ESTHER WILLIAMS

POP

THIS LETTER ABOUT THE
TURKEY SIR - YOU GOT
AS FAR AS "DEAR SIR"



ALTER THAT TO
"DEARER SIR"



Blackbird?

NO! MAKE IT
"DEAREST SIR"



"JANE"



LEE THEATRE

ADVANCE BOOKING OFFICE
ST. FRANCIS HOTEL, QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL
Booking Hours: 11.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Daily

COMMENCING TO-DAY
5 SHOWS DAILY AT 12.00 NOON 2.30,
5.00, 7.15 & 9.30 P.M.

ONE OF THE TEN BEST!

NOW

Cary GRANT
Alexis SMITH
in WARNERS
"Night and Day"
in TECHNICOLOR

THE STORY OF
COLE PORTER, WITH
THOSE COLE PORTER
SONG SENSATIONS!

MORTY WOOLLEY · GINNY SIMMS · JANE WYMAN
EVE ARLEN · CARLOS RAMIREZ · DONALD CRISP
and MARY MARTIN

ALHAMBRA THEATRE

— FIVE SHOWS DAILY —
AT 12.15; 2.30; 5.20; 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.

JIMMY SINGS! PAULETTE DANCES!
HORACE SWINGS! WINNINGER PRANCES!

STEWART GODDARD
in
"POTO GOLD"
A George Marshall production

HORACE HEIDT · CHARLIE WINNINGER

CENTRAL THEATRE

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BIRTHS

PEARIN: In Malta on February 2nd, 1948, to Heather (nee Gillespie), wife of Lieut. A. W. C. Pearin, Royal Marines, a son (Peter Ronald Gillespie).

TO MR AND MRS Alex. Fraser at Kowloon Hospital, a brother for Carole Stuart Alex.

ACQUIRING MOMENTUM

Mr. Ernest Bevin has set a big ball rolling by his proposal for a union of West European countries. It will, however, take some time to acquire momentum, and no real progress can be made until talks begin with France and the Benelux powers to give shape and substance to the proposed pact for mutual aid and economic collaboration.

In principle the response of both Holland and Belgium has been most sympathetic; there is no reason to doubt that of Luxembourg will be equally favourable.

Mr. Churchill's suggestion that Switzerland might join in the group is not likely to be taken up, largely because Switzerland would not be prepared to abandon her guaranteed neutrality for a policy of more active participation in the present conflict of ideologies. Italy, if she pulls through her present difficulties, can be counted on for the fullest collaboration, and the fact that the first conference is to be held in Rome with Italian participation is not without significance. It is likely that the further talks will take place through diplomatic channels until a measure of agreement has been reached on the general policy of collaboration within the union, although economic co-operation is the most important immediate consideration.

In this connection, the question of a customs union is clearly the principal point, and the first contracts are likely to reveal wide divergencies in approach. The special position of Britain in the Commonwealth is one of the major problems. Given the general desire to collaborate, however, it should be possible to find a way out of many of these difficulties.

The political implications of a West European Union are another story. It is not yet known whether the Government favours a comprehensive federation or an alliance based on mutual aid and co-ordination of military and defensive systems.

Meanwhile, the debate in the House of Commons, with its emphasis on the Communist danger, has given room for thought on the future policy of the National Council of Labour and the National Executive of the Labour Party.

Both are expected to consider the Communist threat in relation to the conference of Socialist parties in the 16 Marshall Plan countries which the Labour Party is calling in London in March. It is known that the Communists will spare no effort to disrupt this conference, as they have spared none to destroy the Marshall Plan itself.

There may also be a review of the party's attitude to the proposed "Western Union." A year ago the National Executive advised members to withhold support from Mr. Churchill's United Europe Committee on the ground that, while it was desirable to encourage the maximum co-operation between the nations of Europe, an organisation led by Mr. Churchill was not likely to stimulate such co-operation. Members were therefore advised to concentrate on organisations such as the United Nations Association, which was "above suspicion."

Mr. Bevin spoke of a "Western Union" in the Commons debate without defining exactly what he meant. Precision would, perhaps, have been helpful at this stage. New ideas are abroad, not least in the Labour Party. Statesmen and poli-

DON IDDON'S DIARY

THE THIN MAN BECOMES VIGOROUS

New York, Monday.

Britain, sometimes considered here a junior partner and poor relation, now appears to us as neither junior nor poor, certainly not in ideas. Just when Americans were complaining that they were being compelled to shoulder all the leadership and responsibilities of the Western world, along comes Mr. Bevin and practically takes over the chairmanship of the board.

While Congress sits with its feet on the desk smoking a cigar and sipping a coca-cola, Parliament acts. The historic decision to form a Western European Union has left the Marshall planners feeling slightly foolish and putting away their chewing-gum.

The Thin Man Again

They had an idea that the British were altogether too weak and impoverished, too enfeebled by war and Socialism, to do anything but murmur "Heav, heav," when the U.S. spoke.

Now the poor, thin man is revealed as a very vigorous individual with a master blueprint of his own. We have jolted Congress, which started considering the Marshall Plan with a bang, but looks like concluding discussions with a whimper.

We have won blessings from President Truman and General Marshall themselves, who were looking for shoulders to lean on, and we have wronged laudits from the public, which always admires bold action.

Obstructionists here now feel their foothold precarious. It has been a warty week. The voice of America, broadcasting hundreds of thousands of sentences in 20 languages, has never been shriller.

All day and most of the night the eagle has screamed to Europe and Asia the story of Russian perfidy, the detailed documentary evidence of the Hitler-Stalin pact, its prelude and its sequel.

The people have been rather overwhelmed by all this strong language, but have been galloped by the classic statement of General Eisenhower disavowing Presidential ambitions and asserting that "wise subordination" to civil power should keep all soldiers out of politics.

100 Years Ago

(From the files of the "China Mail")

NOTICE.—Unclaimed on board the P. & O. Co's Hulk "Fort William" G.K. x 76 @ 81. Six Chests TURKEY OPIUM, the Consignee of which is requested to take delivery.

The Ice per "Annie Bucknam," we have been glad to learn, has been delivered in the finest order; such a quantity has been landed as promises to meet the demands of the community. The moderate price at which it is now being sold, 3 cents per lb, places this luxury within the means of most people.

If its application in the now crowded state of the wards of the Military Hospital can be of any avail to the fever-suffering soldiers, the medical staff must rejoice at having a ready supply at their command.

A contemporary mentions that a guard of Police has been stationed for the protection of the Naval Stores, in lieu of the Military withdrawn in consequence of the sickness of the garrison, and complains that the community suffer in consequence of a portion of the regular police being thus employed. It is stated that an additional number of men have been engaged for this particular duty. The editor of the "Hongkong Register" asks: "Who pays for this additional number of men—the Colony?"

Members in different parties are clearly thinking along similar lines, but it may be too early to try to define them in explicit terms. That may come later, further discussion has clarified them, and discovered a basis for common action.

President Truman is also happy about it. The only man who had been tipping him in the political polls was Eisenhower. Now Mr. Truman has a fair chance to be returned to the White House, and as a long-range forecast I'd put your bet on him.

The British tourist trade is in the news, but most Americans who have the desire and the dollars to visit the United Kingdom are confused about conditions there.

Frankest advice comes from Abel Green, editor of *Variety* magazine: "The wise tourist in



England and on the Continent is a portable food store carrying a trunkful of canned goods and cigarettes.

Sir Thomas Beecham is here, expressing some crisp views: "Musicians have no reason to be stuffy. Even gramophones can play French horns and flutes."

"No great music is being written anywhere, because there is no one to write it. The world is drifting to barbarism." A pill without sugar-coating from Beecham.

Locals say it has never been colder than at present, but look at Russia, where people stay frozen in office for years.

Hollywood Squeeze

The blunt words of Mr. Harold Wilson, President of the Board of Trade, informing Hollywood that it cannot possibly "squeeze" Britain by the embargo into modifying the 75 per cent. import duty on films have shaken the film city.

Wilson is accused of being harsh, undiplomatic, and truculent. I think he was right. I think that producers here will abandon their embargo within the next few months.

If it comes to an endurance test I am sure Hollywood will crack first. Within the past few days the public has grown more intense.

Samuel Goldwyn has just fired his entire New York story

department; Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has axed its wage bill 40 per cent.

Extra Hardship
Warner Brothers has cut a swathe through publicly men, yet a study of the company's payroll shows that it expended nearly \$11,000,000 in salaries last year, and 23 men at the top took over \$4,000,000 between them.

Once again it is the little employee—the clerk, screen shifter, extra, joiner, and mechanic—who is suffering.

Almost everyone forecasts an even more terrifying nose-dive in receipts this year. There will be no more epics and spectacles until London and Hollywood come to terms.

The continuing hullabaloo over huge dollar fees paid to American performers in London has persuaded managers and agents to soft-pedal salaries in the future.

For instance, it has been detected not to reveal what the crooning Andrews Sisters will receive for their lullabies in London this summer. However, I can disclose it—15,000 dollars, paid in dollars, per week.

Jimmy Stewart expects to star in the hit play "Harvey" in London soon. The Hollywood actor with the most distinguished record of all has told friends that he is willing to accept pounds sterling as his fee in view of Britain's dollar plight.

My friend James Mason made a brilliant three-minute record for the *Daily Mail* Film Festival the other day. His wife, Pamela Kellins, and I accompanied him to the studio and made a few suggestions which were not needed.

Both James and Pamela deny strenuously the report printed here that they intend to become American citizens. They do not, Pamela's mother, a faithful reader, is due here in February.

Lecture Dour

Godfrey Winn, who is now earning £10,000 a year from Arthur Rank, asked me to meet him this week and then talked eloquently for a solid hour about the food rationing in Britain. He is on his way to Hollywood and will lecture all over the country about British sacrifices and austerity.

New York is feeling the brand, new David Niven—as handsome and happy a pair as I've met in some time.

Carole Landis, who is doing very well in England, doesn't plan to return here for a long, long time.

When Joe Louis goes to London this summer he will take don his entire New York story

(Continued at foot of next Column)

BARCLAY ON BRIDGE

By SHEPARD BARCLAY
"THE AUTHORITY ON AUTHORITIES"

YOU CAN BE TOO RICH

There is such a thing as being too rich—if not in dollar terms, then certainly in high cards. If you hold so many trick-takers in your own hand that you can be sure your partner has a thing of value, the power of your own holding may shrink to nothing. There are two shreds of play which the declarer can then employ to bring about your undoing—the throw-in and the squeeze. He may even use both of them against you and thus beat you out of a couple of tricks which your partner could have taken if your partner had any of your big cards.

S. K. Q
H. 9 6 3 2
D. A 9 8 6
C. Q 7 5
S. 8 7 6
H. A Q J
D. K 10 7
C. A K 4
S. A J 10 4 3 2
H. K 10
D. Q 4
C. 6 2

(Dealer: North. East-West vulnerable.)

North East South West
Pass 1 S Dbl 3 C
Pass 2 C Dbl 4 S
Pass 3 S Dbl 4 S

"The west experience I ever had at a bridge table," said West after he had been both squeezed and end-played on the one hand. When he led the dummy K, South took a look at the dummy and noticed two probable losers in hearts, one of five. But he avoided two of them by playing West for every card of importance, which was out.

Disliking to set up the club, Q. West did not now lead a second club but switched to the spade K. South cleared trump, then in three rounds led the club 4. With no point in holding up and noting that the dummy's Q was now established, West took this with the A and returned the 4. It was his only way to avoid leading with his honors in the red suits. South discarded his heart 10 on the club Q, then led the now blank heart K. West took it and for once found a lead which was not disastrous to him, the heart Q, which came the hardest blow of all, as South led his last three trumps. West discarded the best way possible to him, but it did no good. As the last spade was led, South held his two diamonds and dummy the A-9. West's heart 9. West wouldn't set up the heart by discarding the J, which blanked his diamond K. The diamond 4 to the A dropped it and the Q got the last trick.

Tomorrow's Problem:

S. K. Q 10 8
H. A 6 3
D. A 9 5 3
C. K J
S. J 7 4
H. K Q 10 7
D. K Q J
C. Q 10 7 6
S. 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
H. 8 5 4
D. 8 4
C. A 8 4
(Dealer: West. North-South vulnerable.)

If West, who had opened the bidding with 3-Diamonds, leads the king, how should South play to make 4-Spades?



"I don't wanna baby doll that says 'Mama' I wanna mama-doll that says 'Hand over that pay envelope, Henry!'"

CHINESE NEW YEAR FESTIVITIES

By "Sinologue"

Today is Chinese New Year's Day, calculated on the day of the first new moon of the lunar month Aquarius. Officially, the Chinese Republic has adopted the European calendar, but in reality it is the old Chinese New Year which is celebrated throughout the land.

Behind the noise and the clamour, behind the din of the fairs and the ear-splitting bangs of millions of firecrackers going off in never ending strings for days at a time, lies an ancient tradition dating back as far as the third century B.C.

In those early days before the years and the seasons were fixed with any exactitude, only ten characters, the "Stems of Heaven," were used in referring to the names of year, month and day. Later, a further twelve characters, the "Earth's Branches," were added and a day was fixed by the Emperor to be the first day of the New Year.

The fixing of the New Year Day varied with the ancient dynasties. During the Han dynasty, over two thousand years B.C., it was celebrated on the first day of Yan, the first lunar month. The Shuang emperors, B.C. 1760 to 1123, altered the day to the first of Chou, the twelfth Moon month; and in the Chou dynasty, the first day of Tze, the eleventh Moon month was chosen. These days were always fixed in the springtime of the year and from them the dates for all other festivals, the days for sowing and harvest were calculated. At length, the day originally chosen by the earliest Han emperors, the first day of the first month, was generally adopted and that is the day upon which the Chinese New Year is celebrated.

Although February 10 is this year's New Year Day, the celebrations began several days ago and will continue, accompanied by the setting off of many firecrackers, until the fifteenth day of the New Year.

his wife with him, which makes a monkey out of reports that they are breaking up. The champion would also take pounds instead of dollars if his managers and agents would let him, which is doubtful.

Maggie Teyle is scoring new triumphs here—she is much thinner—been on a diet.

British-born Alfred Hitchcock says he will shoot his new film, "The Rope," in ten days—a record if it comes off. The film will be in Technicolor and cost 1,000,000 dollars, which works out at \$25,000 a day. Hitch remains very British.

Clayton Hutton cables me that his son's play "Power Without Glory," which was well received here, is to be screened in Britain. Hutton sen. is due here in the spring. Martin—or mouths—Raye, now starring in night clubs here, says Charlie Chaplin taught her everything she knows. It is the only "tribute" made to Chaplin for a long time.

Charges of drunkenness against actors are increasing, and some stars have spent the night in gaol recently. Too many men who had thought they had made a corking New Year's resolution are back at the bottle again.

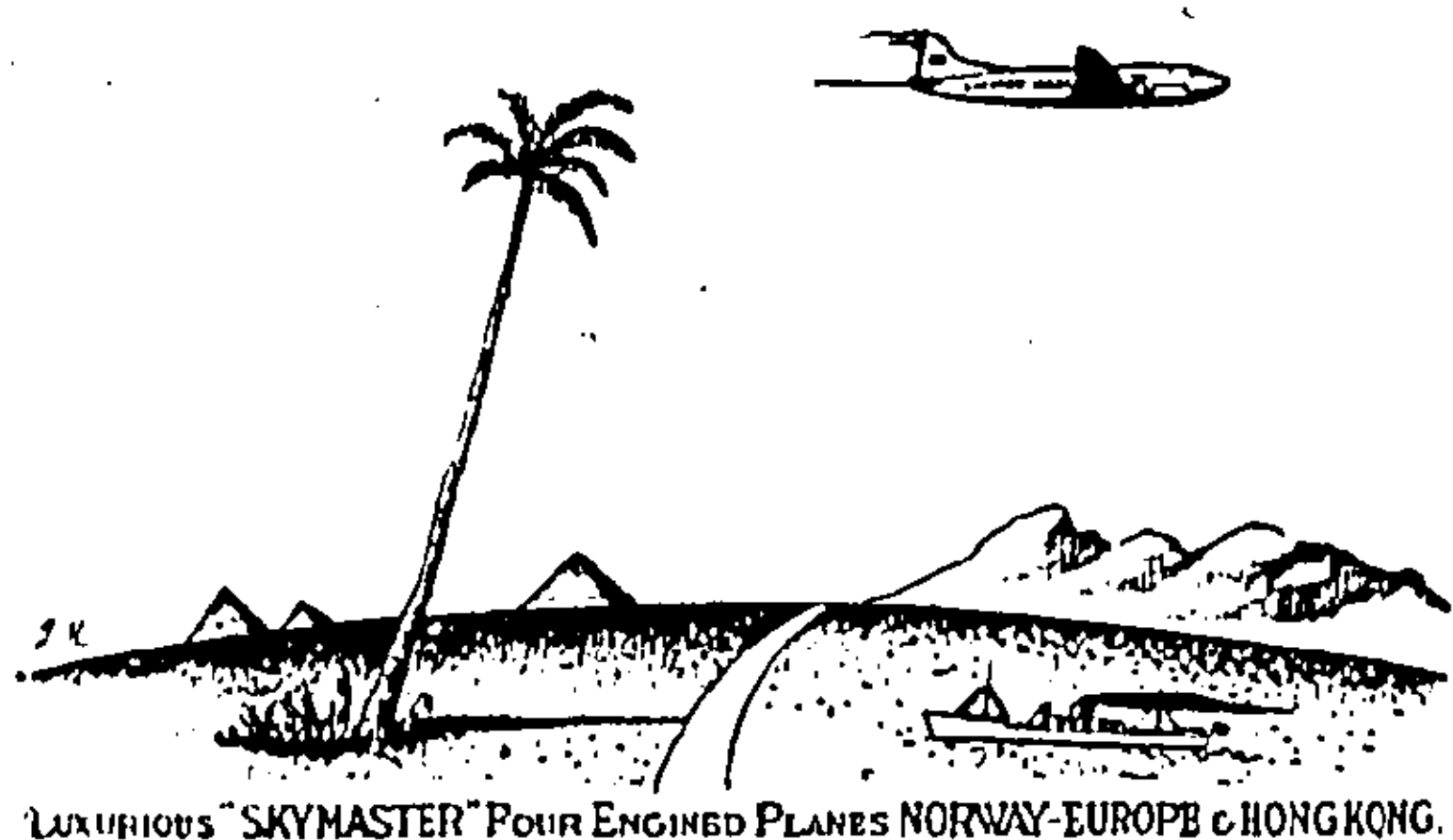
The Chinese New Year is sometimes referred to as everybody's birthday, but this is really a mistake, arising from the fact that, in China, there are two ways of referring to age. One is on the basis of direct calculation from the date of birth while the other is calculated by the number of lunar years in which a person has lived. The two methods should not be confused, though it is only in the early years that the second method is apt to arouse comment.

On the fifteenth day of the New Year, the lamps come down and are burnt, the signs of festivity are removed, the last crackers are let off and life returns to the normal round once more.

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AMERICAN AID FOR CHINA

Washington Keeping Plans A Secret Possibilities Of Military Help

Washington, Feb. 8. One of the best kept secrets in Washington this week-end was just how the United States intended spending the approximately \$570,000,000 aid for China which, it disclosed, it will seek from Congress.

There was considerable speculation over how much would be earmarked for commodities and reconstruction equipment and whether the plan envisages any military aid or cash for currency stabilisation.

Authoritative official sources said there was no possibility whatever at present of the Chinese receiving any currency stabilisation money in addition to the \$570,000,000 general aid programme for 15 months beginning on April 1. However, they did not rule out the possibility that some cash for this purpose might be included in the \$570,000,000 programme.

There has been considerable difference of opinion between Chinese and American officials over the question of effectiveness of any United States money for currency stabilisation in China. Chinese here are known to have submitted requests for a stabilisation loan of \$300,000,000 to \$500,000,000. They contend they can "make a good start" toward remedying the chaotic monetary situation with that amount.

U.S. Doubtful

However, most American authorities have been dubious, asserting that it would take much more and still might have no appreciable effect, thus resulting in a sheer waste of money.

Earlier this week reports current here had it that the entire China aid programme would be put into commodities. However, the fact that these reports stemmed from the same assertedly official sources which released erroneous figures for the China programme as a whole cast doubt on their accuracy.

In addition it was pointed out that \$570,000,000 was an extremely large figure for the purchase of commodities for a little more than a year when most commodities the Chinese really needed, such as wheat, petroleum and rice, were in extremely short supply.

Red Army Vigilance Demanded

MOSCOW, FEB. 9. "RED STAR," ORGAN OF THE RED ARMY, TODAY URGED ALL RUSSIAN SOLDIERS TO BE VIGILANT, "CONSTANTLY READY TO PREVENT NEW AGGRESSION AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION AND ITS ALLIES."

"The press of the United States, confronted by irrefutable facts which brand the American militarists, is still keeping a stubborn silence."

"Only two papers have left their stupor and broken this conspiracy of silence," the "Red Star" said, adding that these two papers were the New York Herald Tribune and New York World Telegram.

Even they, the "Red Star" continued, try to detract from the seriousness of the Russian charges against Iran by saying, with a line of reasoning designed for "political simpletons," that Russia's charges are another phase of Soviet propaganda.—United Press.

Moslem Guard Outlawed

NEW DELHI FEB. 9. THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT TODAY OUTLAWED THE MOSLEM LEAGUE NATIONAL GUARD AND ITS RIVAL ORGANISATION, THE KHAKSARS.

The Government described the two groups as contributors to poisonous communalism.

Police declined to say whether the banning of the two Moslem groups meant that their leaders would be seized. Any such arrests would be on a smaller scale, since many Moslems have been driven from India by the communal violence.

The Moslem League National Guard supported militantly the demand of Mahomed Ali Jinnah, now Governor-General of Pakistan, for a separate Moslem demarcation. The Khaksars has been equally militant but anti-Jinnah.—Associated Press.

WORKERS 800 GOVERNMENT

Paris, Feb. 8. The police intervened today at Lille in northern France when 700 demonstrators of the trade union movement of the Nord Department started to hiss and boo the Government at a meeting in the Cathedral Square.

A short scuffle followed, in which a number of placards were broken.—Reuter.

Soviet Lodges Protest

Moscow, Feb. 9. The Soviet command in Austria has protested to the United States command at the "provocative" attacks of the American military police against Soviet servicemen on duty, which have occurred within the last few days.

The note, according to Tass, alleged that the United States military police had beaten up Soviet servicemen, tried to take over prisoners being escorted by Soviet troops, and had carried off a Soviet citizen, who has not yet been turned over to the Soviet authorities in spite of repeated protests.

The dispatch quoted a letter to the American authorities from Lieutenant-General Tsinov, a high Soviet official in the Soviet administration in Austria, declaring that in the event of a repetition of similar incidents "Soviet servicemen will be compelled to take measures of self-defence"—Reuter.

London, Feb. 8. Ankara Radio reported tonight that a Rumanian sergeant, the only occupant of a foreign plane which landed at an airfield near Istanbul yesterday, has been interned.—Reuter.

Machine Gunners Mow Down Tribal Formation

Jammu, Kashmir, Feb. 8. Indian machine-gunners mowed down a mass formation of advancing tribesmen raiders at point blank range, when they are estimated to have killed some 2,000 of them in a two-day battle around the town of Naoshera, in western Kashmir.

Indian patrols had recovered 955 bodies of the raiders and more were being brought in after what was described as the bitterest battle yet in the campaign in Jammu province of Kashmir.

The battle began before dawn on Friday when 11,000 Pathans and tribesmen attempted to storm Indian Army positions in the hills around Naoshera.

All the attacks were repulsed. Hand-to-hand fighting broke out when some raiders penetrated into Indian Army positions.

Gandhi's Ashes

After the battle, the Indians set out in pursuit and Indian artillery and Air Force caught the raiders on the run, adding heavily to their casualties.

Some of Mahatma Gandhi's ashes were today taken from New Delhi to Jammu, scene of fighting between the tribesmen and Indian forces in southwest Kashmir, New Delhi Radio reported.

At Jammu, the ashes were carried in a mile-long procession, led by the local militia, and will be buried near a monument to be set up to the Mahatma's memory.

The other portions of the Mahatma's ashes will be immersed in about 110 holy rivers throughout India three sacred places on the sea in addition to the main ceremony next Thursday at Allahabad, where the Juma and Ganges rivers meet.—Reuter.



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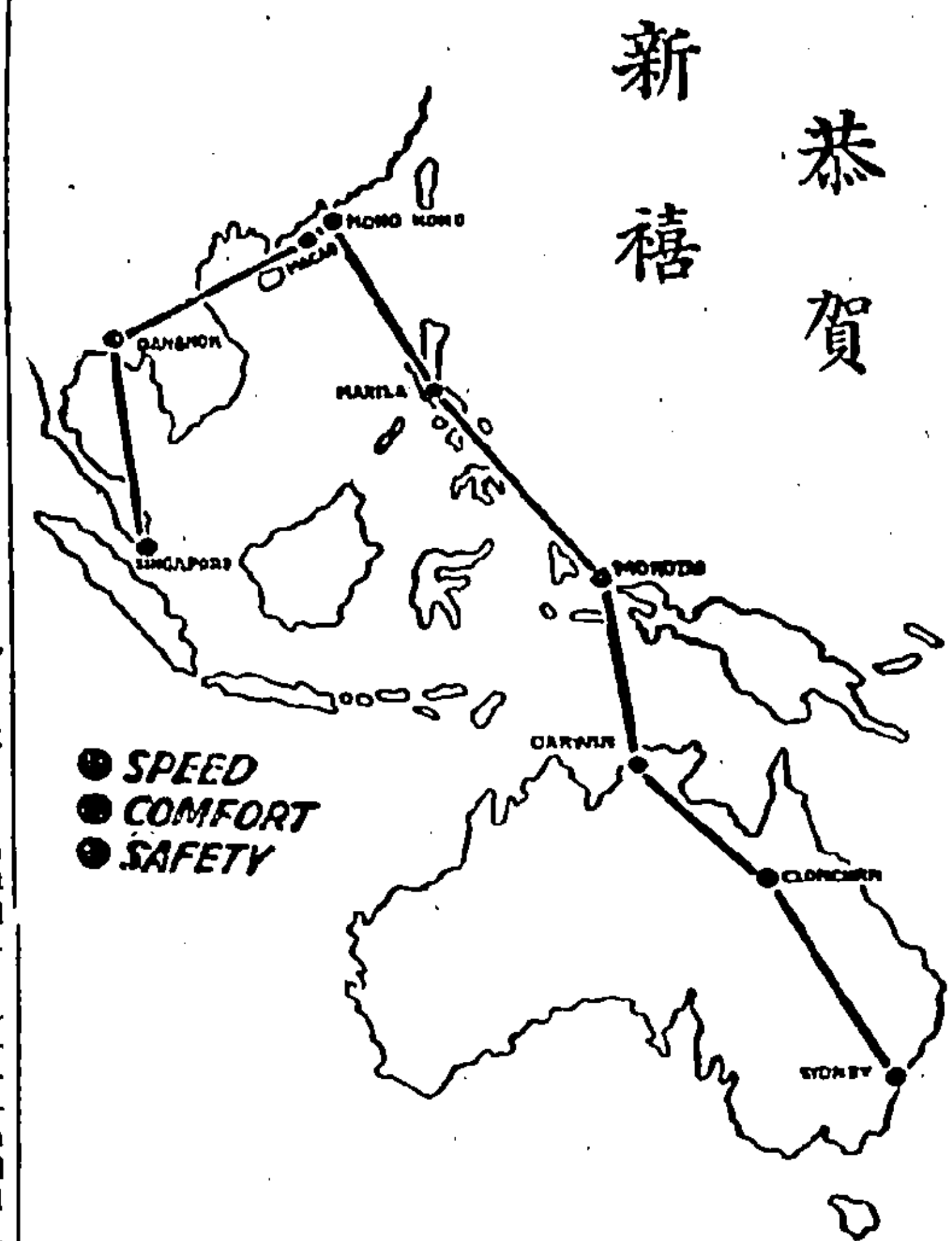
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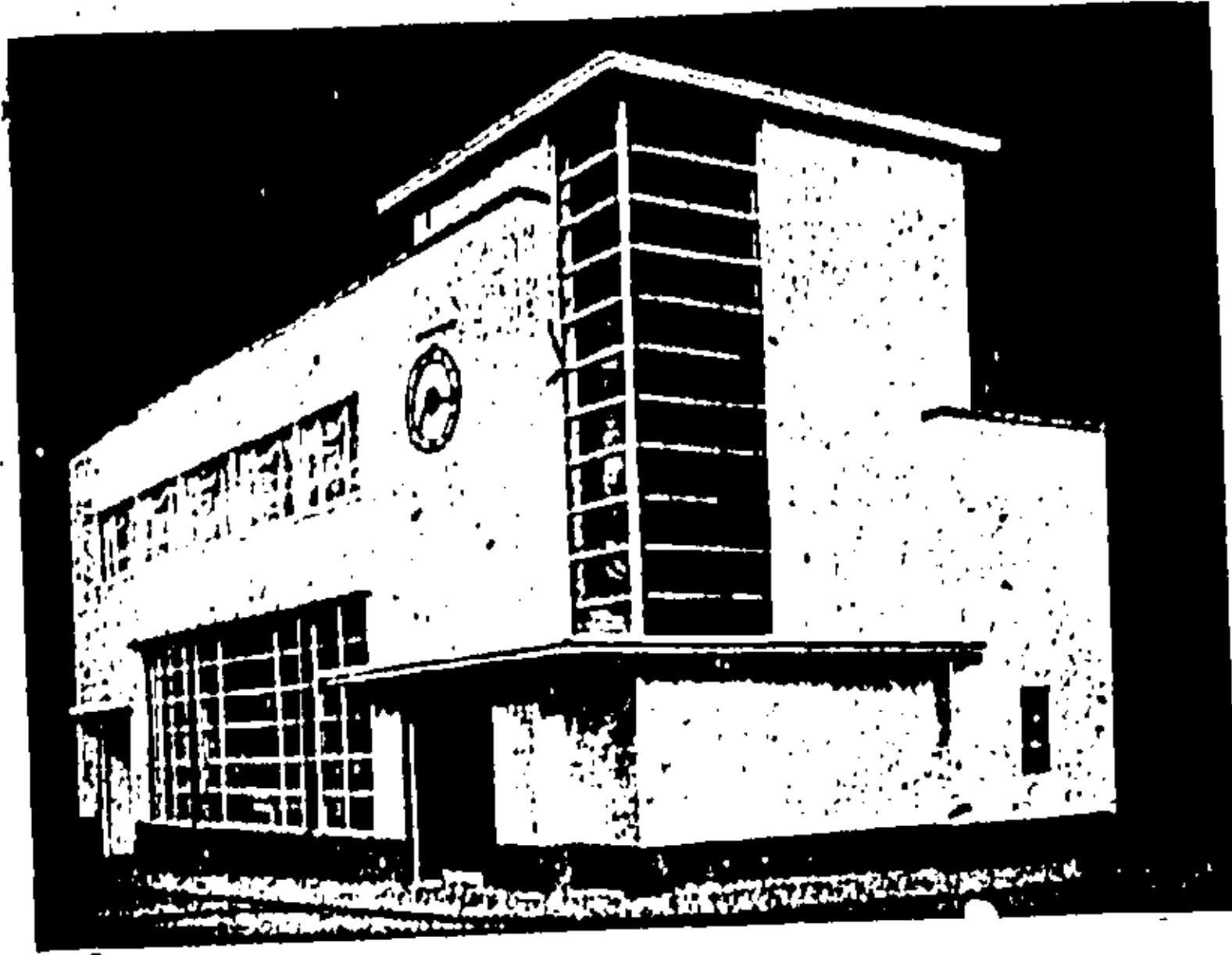
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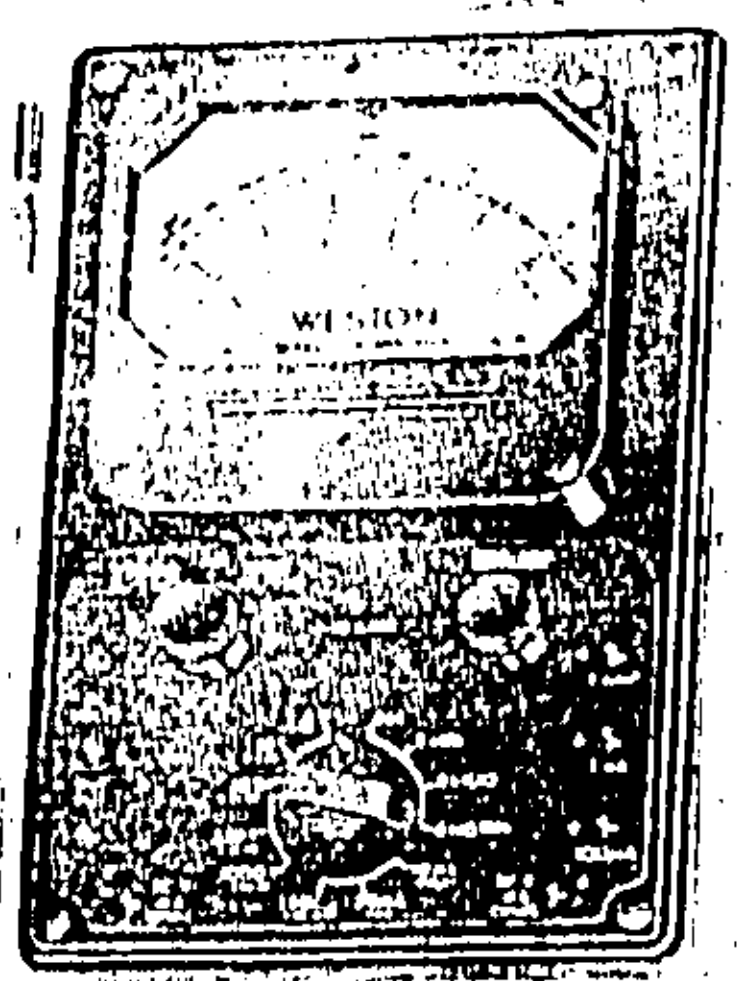


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New Uses
For Plastics

Students from many countries now in England have visited the plastic industry, which has developed out of all recognition since the war and is still growing. Typical of reactions was the remark by Mr. J. Y. Soong, of Shanghai, that it was a tragedy that currency and other economic troubles prevented the peoples of the Far East from enjoying to the full the fruits of the remarkable advances and research which have been carried out.

The Halex factory, visited by the students, is concerned solely with the processing of raw plastic applied in powder or sheet form into household goods of many kinds, and luxury items such as table tennis balls. But the machines on display were typical of the types used in the production of new types of plastic goods which are competing with both metal and fabrics.

For example, many articles for household use have been produced in plastic and have proved themselves lighter, yet more durable than their metal predecessors. They have the added advantages of higher resistance to damp, which caused rust or corrosion on metals and germ resistant finish.

For Tropics

Many of the new materials are of particular interest to tropical areas. One of the latest developments is a substance called "Terylene." It is almost as strong as steel, it is dry, it retains shape under all conditions and is resistant to all normal dry cleaning agents. It can be heated to a temperature of 200 degrees centigrade without ill effects. "Terylene" is as near proof against moulds and bacteria as fabric can possibly be.

"Ardill," another all-British product of the plastic industry, combines most of the qualities of natural wool with lower price, resistance to insect attack and is non-shrinking.

Although the range of plastics already produced is bewildering, British scientists believe that the industry is only at the threshold of the field of usefulness. It has been found that delicate equipment such as radio sets, which suffer from the effects of heat, cold or damp when exported to less temperate climates, can be rendered impervious by treating them with plastics after construction.

Radiophone
Experiments

Scientists and industrialists have been trying to perfect the wireless telephone for years and the latest development in this connection was recently tried out in London.

The first of these trial sets, for receiving and replying to messages in a moving vehicle, was fitted in a police car and the experiment proved so satisfactory that the new system may be introduced in all police cars.

This new wireless telephone can also be used between trains and signal boxes, and the time is possibly not remote when all will have telephones fitted to their cars.

Why Not Give Scotland
Her Just Due?

Lanarkshire is steadily losing position as the chief coal producing area in Scotland. Output has fallen from about 24 million tons in 1910 to some nine million tons last year.

Instead of producing twice as much as Fife, Clackmannan and the Lothians put together, Lanarkshire is now down to level terms with the alliance of these three fields, still strong but losing power.

For all that, Lanarkshire is likely to play a dominant part in the British mining industry for many a long day. That is because a group of modest firms in the county have been systematically building up a very strong position in the manufacture of mining machinery.

Made In Britain

Between them they are responsible for by far the greater part of coal cutters, underground conveyors and flame-proof switch gear used in the British coal industry.

They are due most of the credit for pushing up the percentage of machine-cut coal from 1 1/2 per cent, at the turn of the century, to over 75 per cent now.

On them, and not on the Americans, will rest the task of re-equipping the waur of the wear collieries.

The mining machinery industry all grew out of electricity and the pioneer work on that transportable form of energy carried out in and around Glasgow.

Made In Motherwell

Mavor and Coulson, Ltd., of Glasgow, were one of the first electrical engineering firms in the world. They installed the first electrical supply system in Scotland, now grown into the huge Glasgow Corporation Electricity Department.

The firm soon got busy electrifying factories and collieries

and, with that experience, they built their first electric coal cutter in 1897.

Over in Motherwell, then like Glasgow the centre of a big mining industry, things were also stirring.

Anderson and Boyes, Ltd., of that town, built their first coal cutter in 1900. That too, was powered by electricity. Being pioneers, these companies had to make most of their own supplies, motors, switchgear and all. They are still remarkably self-contained.

A generation later, the demand for flame-proof switch gear, with the added safety it guaranteed, provided the basis for another trail-blazing firm, the Belmos Company of Bellshill. That concern turns out much of the flame-proof switch gear installed underground.

All three companies produce equipment which is practically standard in their particular lines. All three are still forging ahead and all three have factories which were chosen by the war-time Ministry of Production as show places. Hardly a day passes without some one paying a visit to find out how things are done.

This is written, not to advertise these Lanarkshire firms, but to give credit where credit is due.

Not Made In U.S.A.

The Joy Loader, hailed as the latest thing from the United States, was made by Mavor and Coulson away back in 1930.

And, based on developments started ten years before, Anderson and Boyes, in 1941, played a vital part in designing the famous Meco Moore cutter-loader. As it travels along the face, the coal disintegrates and disappears.

The machine is a Motherwell production, not, as many suppose, something new-fangled from America.

And that is why Lanarkshire still remains the hope of the British coal trade.

New British
Helicopter

A new British helicopter, the Fairly "Gyrodyne," has just made its successful first flight.

An experimental model, it has already been subjected to searching ground tests. In its present form it has seating capacity for four, though most of the space is occupied by test-recording instruments.

Chief interest lies in the novel form of counteracting rotor torque: a shaft is taken from the engine through a small stub wing on the starboard side to an orthodox variable pitch propeller. The propeller also provides thrust for forward propulsion.

The advantages of this design lie in greater safety, higher forward speed and greater comfort. Greater safety is claimed because the main rotor blades are always flying within the auto-rotative pitch range. Consequently, engine failure does not entail rapid action on the part of the pilot to avoid loss of rotor revolutions per minute. Better comfort comes from minimized vibration from revolving rotors.

The "Gyrodyne" is a striking example of the intensive research work now being carried out by the Fairley Company at a cost of £150,000 yearly.

A NEW FLEXIBLE
FUEL TANK

Safety and fuel capacity in aircraft will be considerably increased by the development in Britain of a new type of flexible fuel tank. Evolved from the war-time need to bullet-proof the usual tanks, these fuel "cells," as they are called, provide a high degree of protection against fire in crash or heavy landings, and allow

maximum use of the space available for carrying fuel.

Marston Excelsior Ltd., a subsidiary of Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd., was responsible for the design of the cell, which is known as the "Marflex," and the combined research experience of no fewer than six I.C.I. Divisions went to the production of suitable materials for it.

The material for the "Marflex" cell consists of a sandwich with an intermass and facing of "Formvar"-Glycerol-Adipate synthetic resin, calendered on to two-ply cotton fabric. The resin is impermeable to petrol or aviation spirit and remains flexible over a comparatively wide temperature range.

The material is "tailored" on to wooden formers—a method which lends itself to the speedy production of unusual shapes. The formers are so made that they can be completely dismantled after the tank has been built, and withdrawn through a hole made to receive one of the metal fittings.

New Hope

Those who suffer from deafness in Britain are given new hope by a report just issued by the Medical Research Council. It states that when the National Health Act comes into effect next July, the Ministry of Health are planning a free issue of new hearing aids.

The result of three years' experimental work by the Electro-Acoustics Committee of the Council is given in the report. Following these activities, arrangements have now been made for the large-scale manufacture of a cheap and efficient hearing aid. It will satisfy the needs of 10 per cent, of the deaf people in Britain.

Canadian production figure of passenger cars for April was 13,251—a fall of 676 compared with the March total of 13,927. On the other hand, commercial vehicles over the same period showed a rise of 1,230.

China
Demand
For Radios

British radio manufacturers reports that the removal of the British wireless receiver has prompted many enquiries and orders from China. For the moment there are many difficulties which have to be solved before Britain can supply China with equipment in quantity. Makers, however, are very optimistic that China will ultimately prove to be a large purchaser of British sets but because of exchange and service problems, orders have to be kept on file.

The question of currency naturally falls into the sphere of international finance, but it is realised that users of British receivers have also to be assured of repairs and that spare parts are available.

The organising of this service is one of the chief problems, for efficient service must be based on skilled Chinese technicians thoroughly trained in British radio methods.

Meanwhile, makers are conducting intensive research into "tropicalisation" of sets that are destined for the Far East. Sets are subjected to artificially made tropical climates and great heats. In order to further prevent cabinets warping, all joints are treated with special resin binding. Receivers also go under a third treatment which safeguards against humidity penetrating the parts.

The British Council last week arranged for a party of overseas students to visit the Cosser radio factory. A Chinese scholar who is studying mechanical engineering at the Imperial College, London, interviewed later, said that what he found most remarkable was the ability with which the British worker speedily and efficiently constructed most complicated circuits.

Lack of electricity in China, he considered, would prove the greatest obstacle to general use of wireless in China.

Wilfrid Andrews, chairman of the Royal Automobile Club and vice-chairman of the International Automobile Federation, has been made an Officer of the Order of the Crown by the Prince Regent of Belgium. The honour was conferred in recognition of Mr. Andrews' untiring efforts in the cause of international motor racing.

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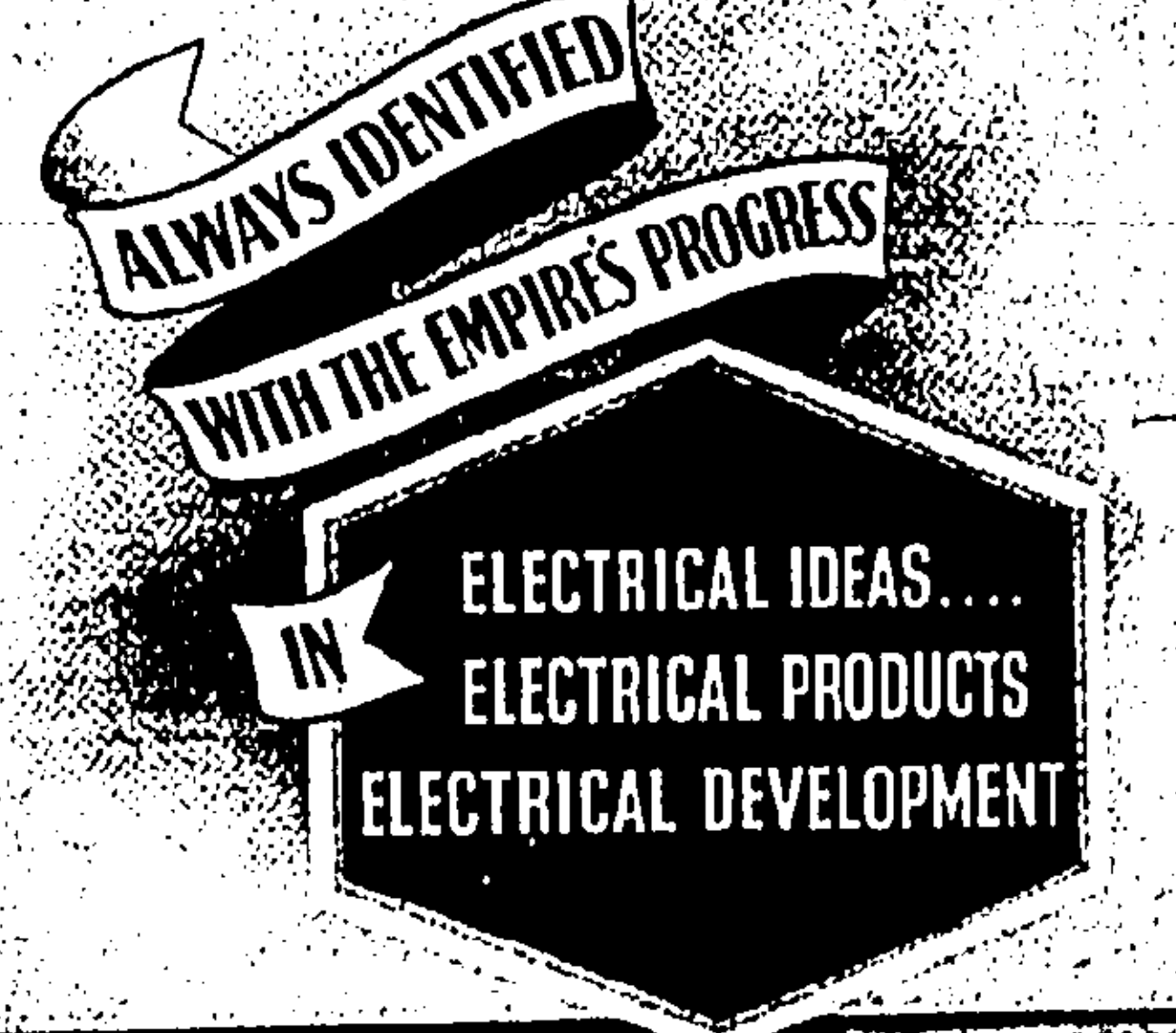
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ARRIVALS

From	Date	Vessel
Atlantic Coast	19th Feb.	m.v. "DONA NATI"
via Los Angeles	5th Mar.	m.v. "TONGHAI"

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For	Date	Vessel
Atlantic Coast	24th Feb.	m.v. "DONA NATI"
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FINANCE AND COMMERCE

INFLATION IN AMERICA

Said To Have Reached Post-War Peak

Hong Kong Stock Exchange

The Chinese Lunar Year closed with the market in a buoyant mood. Business reported yesterday was on a large scale and with advancing prices.

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WYATT EARP SETS OUT

APL TIE-UP WITH AIR LINES

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Washington, Feb. 9.

A group of prominent businessmen, it was reported today, told top Government economists a week before the recent break in commodity prices that inflation in the United States was nearing or had already reached its post-war peak.

They forecast a drop in prices and contended that President Truman had "considerably overstated the inflationary danger."

Results of the business-government meeting were disclosed by Prentiss L. Conley and Ernest A. Tupper, private business consultants. They arranged the conference at Government request, as one of a series of meetings for exchange of views.

On Jan. 26, a week before grain futures began their spectacular plunge, the group gave the Government these economic views:

1—That inventory buying in anticipation of further price rises had subsided for some months.

2—That a peak in inflation was near if it had not been already reached.

3—That business was pursuing a "cautious" purchasing policy.

4—That in an ever increasing number of situations prices were reflecting supplies equal to or in excess of demand.

5—That a number of evidences existed of a levelling off, if not an actual slowdown, in some lines of activity.

The businessmen also expressed doubt that any business decline would be sharp but made this conclusion:

"In order to make adjustments to the kind of base needed for an extended period of high business activity, enough recession would have to occur to induce business, labour and Government to adopt a sensible attitude."

The business men agreed that labour was showing a desire to cooperate to restrain inflation and prevent business costs from soaring further.

They expressed the view that President Truman in his recent economic report to Congress had over-stressed the danger of an economic crash.

Among signs claimed by the businessmen as indicating an imminent price downturn were these:

That food crops in Europe look promising enough to in-

duce a drop in prices.

Grain prices stiffened somewhat on Saturday after three days during which most futures contracts plunged the permissible daily limit. Nevertheless, one economist declared, "the back of the inflation has been broken."

In making this observation, A. W. Zelomke of New York, economic counsellor and President of the International Statistical Bureau, predicted commodity prices will fall 20 to 25 percent in the next nine months.

Associated Press.

Associated Press.

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APL Tie-Up With Air Lines

San Francisco, Feb. 8.

An agreement between the American President Lines and the Northwest Airlines now enables travellers to take combination steamship and air trips.

The sea-air service became available to international travellers after the shipping and airline received notice of approval by the U.S. Maritime Commission.

The pact provides for 10 per cent reductions on first class round-trip fares. Steps will be taken towards revising tariffs covering joint sea and air fares, the announcement said.

The two companies will represent each other in soliciting passengers.

The arrangement was announced jointly by George Killian, APL president, and Croll Hunter, head of the N.W.A.—Associated Press.

WYATT EARP SETS OUT

Melbourne, Feb. 8.

The retired Australian polar exploration ship, Wyatt Earp, left Melbourne for the Antarctic today, having successfully passed week-end trials after dry-dock repairs.

The 7,000-ton Wyatt Earp, which is to reconnoitre the eastern sector of the Australian Antarctic, returned to Melbourne last month when trouble developed after her departure from Hobart, Tasmania, on Dec. 26.

She ran into rough weather and sprang a leak in her hull—Reuter.

Notice To Consignees

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Damaged packages are to be left in the Godowns for examination by Consignees and the Company's Surveyors, Messrs. Goddard & Douglas at 10 a.m. on 17th February.

To comply with the General Bonded Warehouse Regulations consignees must have a Revenue Officer in attendance when damaged dutiable goods are examined.

No claims will be admitted after the goods have left the steamer's godowns, and all goods remaining undelivered after the 18th February, 1948 will be subject to rent.

All claims against the steamer must be presented to the undersigned on or before the 28th February, 1948, or they will not be recognised.

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Messrs. Goddard & Douglas will attend at 10 a.m. on Mondays and Thursdays within the free storage period to survey damaged cargo, and consignees are requested to have their representatives present. Unless consignees representatives are present at the Survey no claims can thereafter be admitted.

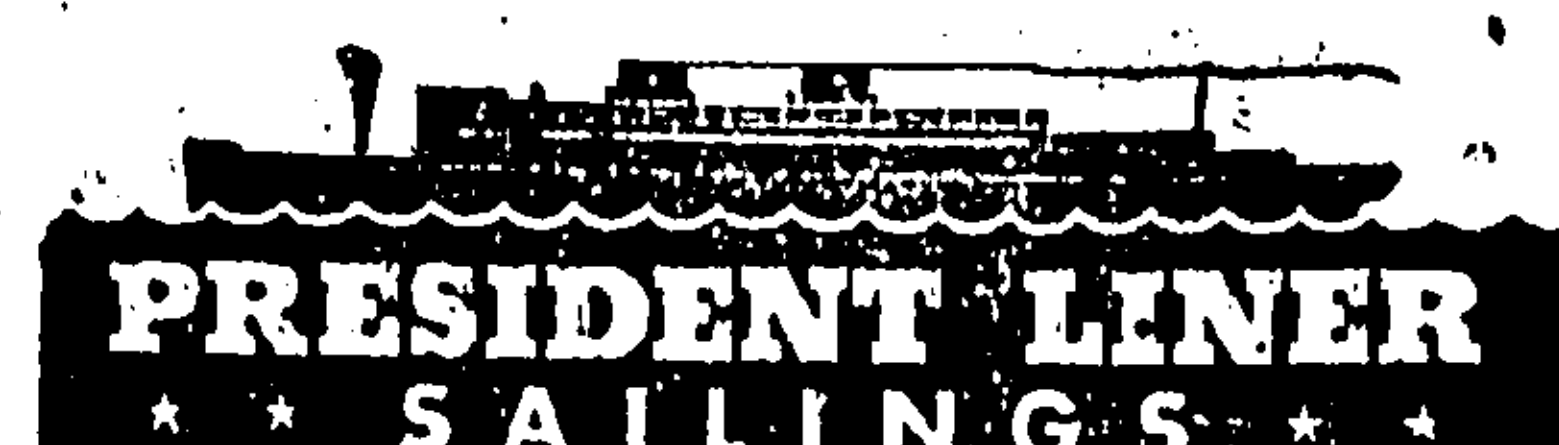
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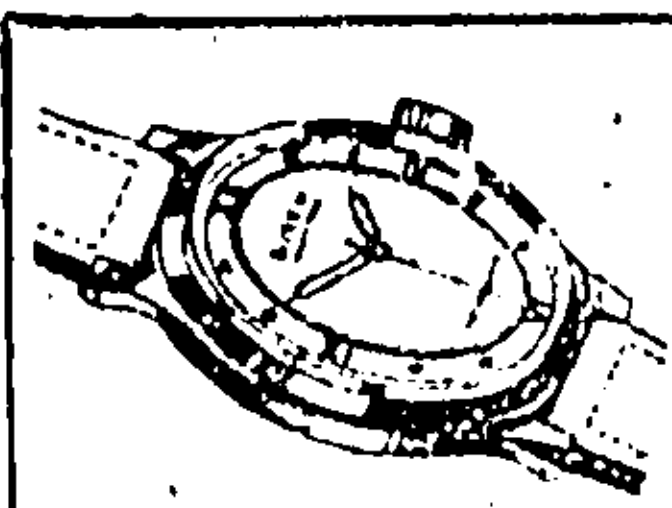
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India Scores 251 For Four

Melbourne, Feb. 9.
A typical Melbourne hot northwesterly wind blew as the third day's play of the concluding Test match between Australia and India ended with India scoring 251 runs for four wickets at 5.40 p.m. An appeal for light was upheld. The wicket was in splendid condition after Amar-nath had used the mower and the light roller. Bradman, whose intentions were doubtful over the weekend, led the Australians on to the field and fielded in the slips as Ring com-pleted his Saturday's over to Adhikari.

Mankad started the day with a fast over, bowing with the ball on a short pitch. He bowled a fast over, taking a wicket in the first over. He bowled a fast over, taking a wicket in the first over. He bowled a fast over, taking a wicket in the first over.

At 140, Len Johnson came on third delivery. He bowled a fast over, taking a wicket in the first over. He bowled a fast over, taking a wicket in the first over. He bowled a fast over, taking a wicket in the first over.

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World Cycling Championships

Paris, Feb. 7.
When the 7th Congress of Inter-national Cyclists Union met in Paris today, the 1949 world championships were awarded to Denmark by 42 votes against 12 for Italy, after Mr. Teddy Southcott of Great Britain had stated that Great Britain would withdraw her candidature for the championships.

The Czechoslovakian proposal that "cyclists" should be included in the championships was accepted, and there will be no "independent" class in this year's world title events, but each federation will be allowed to help in an independent category if it wishes.

For the world, amateur and professional road championships and Olympic Games and the road event, each federation may engage eight riders.

The Olympic event will be 200 kilometres long at a maximum. In future there will be two lists of records, one for open air tracks and another for indoor tracks.—Reuter.

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SOVIET PICKS ON FINLAND

Moscow, Feb. 8.
Writing in Izvestia today, Y. Illinski said, "Right Wing circles in Finland are jumping out of their hides attempting to push their country into Marshall's chariot."

The article, a major one in the Soviet paper, claimed that Finnish reactionaries, following the municipal elections, are redoubling their efforts to "induce Finland into the main channel of the imperialist policies of American reaction."—Associated Press.

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Interport Soccer Today

A RECORD CROWD IS EXPECTED AT THE CLUB GROUND, HAPPY VALLEY, THIS AFTERNOON, WHEN THE INTERPORT SOCCER MATCH BETWEEN HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI WILL BE PLAYED AT 3.30 P.M.

Opinions differ on the selection of the Hong Kong team, but there is no denying that on the whole, the side is a well balanced one. The Hong Kong team will be captained by B. Gosano, who is playing his eleventh Interport game against Shanghai.

The Hong Kong defence is a strong one but much will depend on Ken Ferrow keeping Robson-toff in check. The latter, according to reports, is at the top of his form and should be closely watched.

Cheung Kam-hoi will be seen at left half, on his recent display, he has fully justified this in present form, he is even better than Lau Chung-sang.

The weak link in Hong Kong's attack is Tang Yee-Kit. This is his first Interport and although he is speedy, he has yet to achieve match temperament.

A number of players who have been here before will be seen in the Shanghai side, which is reputed to be the best that could have been chosen.

Suen Kam-shun, veteran Interporter, will be seen in his usual position at inside left. P. L. Chang, who gave such a brilliant display in the Shanghai goal last year, will again be seen in the same position. In front of him will be Ng Ki-cheung and N. Z. Lee.

The following re-appointment of officials for Football Interport:—

TUESDAY, FEB. 10
Hong Kong v. Shanghai, (Club, 3.30 p.m.). Ref.:—L. G. Young. Linesmen:—J. G. Padley/C. Tunstall.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 11
C. Chinese v. Shanghai, (Club, 3.30 p.m.). Ref.:—C. Tunstall. Linesmen:—H. Bilby/L. G. Young.

SATURDAY, FEB. 14
Rest of Colony v. Shanghai, (Club, 3.30 p.m.). Ref.:—H. Bilby. Linesmen:—L. G. Young/E. A. Barretto.

The following is today's soccer programme:—

1ST DIVISION
St. Joseph's v. South China, (S. China, 4 p.m.). Ref.:—F. H. Bullock. Linesmen:—P. P. Li/C. Redman.

K.M. Bus v. Innis, (Police, 4 p.m.). Ref.:—A. Brogan. Linesmen:—N. Delgado/B. M. Xavier. Chinese A.A. v. Kit Chee, (Club, 4 p.m.). Ref.:—T. M. Omar. Linesmen:—S.M.I. Easton/A. Leck.

25th R.A. v. Police, (Sookun-poo, 4 p.m.). Ref.:—J. Ward. Linesmen:—D. P. Lal/A. Farmer.

2ND DIVISION "A"
K.M. Bus v. Taikoo, (Police, 2.30 p.m.). Ref.:—J. Crawford. Kit Chee v. Dockyard, (Navy, 2.30 p.m.). Ref.:—A. Leck.

2ND DIVISION "B"
Electric v. Chinese A.A., (Navy, 4 p.m.). Ref.:—A. R. Beltrio. Club v. R.A.M.C., (Club, 2.30 p.m.). Ref.:—E. J. Nichols.

Khalsa, a newly-formed hockey combination, will meet R.A.F. in a friendly match at Kai Tak on Friday at 4.45 p.m.

Through an oversight, the result of the previous Saturday's cruiser race was not reported:—

Actual Correct. (Time) (Time)
1. White Heron (Wilmet, 2.18.45 1.42.10)
2. Arki (R.B. Bowman, 2.24.35 1.48.05)
There will be no cruiser race next Sunday but a "Prince" race on Feb. 22 and an all day race on Feb. 29.

FANLING STARTING TIMES
Royal Hong Kong Golf Club starting times for Wednesday:—
9.40 A. Todd—J.B. Kite, 9.48 R.G. Gray—W.H. Lyall, 9.52 J. Linaker—R.S. Barry, 9.56 C.G. Stark—J.B. Mackie, 10.00 Stoker—Boycott—Jackson—Davies, 10.04 D.C. Davis—S.H. Ash, 10.08 E.P. Strassfield—G.H. Catherley, 10.12 G.A. Leiper—J.H. Korrigh.

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International Softball Series Opens

(By "Grandstand")
The Annual International Series will be off to a flying start today, as the United States of America cross bats with Great Britain, holders of the Hong Kong & Shanghai Hotels Ltd. Shield.

The American contingent, this year, as of yore, comprises an outfit of gobs from Uncle Sam's battle-wagons in port. The Stars and Stripes will be headed by Doc Molten while the British Lions will be under the capable management of Stan Leonard, slugging brain-trust of the mighty Saints.

On Wednesday, the Philippine Islanders tangle with China for the right to meet India in the second round. Portugal drew a "bye" and will meet the victors of today's clash.

The American contingent has not yet been seen in action locally and may prove to be a dark-horse outfit. Our scouts who have been nosing around King's Park the last few Sundays report that they are loosening up those muscles in preparation for this great game, and whether or not they will be able to stand up against the British Big Guns, their line of chatter will provide a highly interesting side-light to local fans.

The Great Britain outfit, built around the nucleus of the Leonard brothers, will have must of the players on last year's championship team, including Ignar Erikson, George White, Sid Hollands, Blinby Ablong and Jack Brown.

It is also understood that mentor Stan Leonard will call upon the winning pitcher of last year's contest, Solly Saul, who produced a brilliant three-hit effort in blanketing out the Chinese side in the final game—that tilt was incidentally one of those errorless displays on the winning side.

In staging their bid to retrieve glory lost, the Chinese side will be severely handicapped if they cannot persuade Herbie Quon to toe the rubber. Herbie injured his thumb some time ago in the early stages of an unofficial international tourney, and has been out of action for some time. Herbie made a re-appearance on the local diamond last week but only took over catching duties with Kasha Nazaria on the slab for the Maple Leafers.

The side will be comprised mainly of the South China roster with a sprinkling of Big Bill Woo's Maple Leaf outfit.

The Filipinos, who are slated to meet China on Wednesday, will be headed by boss-man Fred Diesta with veterans Pepy Malig, Neco Delgado, Hobo Gomes and Blas Deepa. Others in the line-up are Bub Babida, M. Reyes, Frankie Dollano, P. Arancan, A. Santos, and Alf Malig. Fred Diesta will miss his club mates in the batting department, as outstanding stars Ignar Erikson and Joey Franco have been called upon to represent their parent nation.

India and Portugal, having drawn byes, are still deciding on their line-up. The former will probably draw on the Junior League Rexes who have quite a few budding youngsters with plenty of ball sense, among whom are "Tiger" Hussain, slugging threat of the minor loop, and "suro-bunt" A. W. Wahab who is also a threat once he gets on the base-paths.

The Aces will be first to admit that they were lucky in just scraping through with a victory over the Canuckettes on Sunday, after the fracas had gone into over-time innings.

The Maple Leafers caught Ace hurler Margie Xavier on the wrong foot and before the first inning was over, four Canuckettes rung decorated the score book on four safeties. Another spurge of the Maple Leaf runs in the next frame to the Aces three, really got each Buster Hollands worked. A pep talk on the field produced two more markers, but the Aces were still trailing behind 7-5 as the Canuckettes piled on three more to make it 10-5, and blanked the Madcapers in their half of the fourth.

Held Scoreless
Alan, the Canuckettes ran out of hits and were held scoreless until the end of the seventh. In the meantime, the Aces had chalked up 9 runs when they came up for their seventh turn at bat.

Celly Gutierrez tapped out a roller which Canuckettes key-stoner Mavis Bunn heaved wild to first base. Celly solo second and third as Alec Mendonza grounded out. One away and the tying run was in.

Third, Bernie Remedios rounded to the right and Mavis Bunn bungled again to see Celly Gutierrez romp over the pay-off station with the equalizer. Bernie solo second and was advanced to third as Ella Chinn "banged" another. Two on bases and Margie Xavier laid down a bunt which

fielded and played for home—but Bernie didn't run and the bases were densely populated. Still one away.

Teresa "Choochi" Baptista, faced hurler Alice Mar with a "Casey at Bat" set-up but popped out to first base. Two down and bases still choked, while faint hearts were missing beats. Inez Soares smashed a liner to the box